FREE

SEVEN DAYS

February 4, 1998 The weekly read on Vermont news, views and culture VOL.3 NO.24

ODD, STRANGE, CURIOUS AND WEIRD BUT TRUE NEWS ITEMS FROM EVERY CORNER OF THE GLOBE

NEWS QUIRKS

BY ROLAND SWEET

Whipped into Shape

Just before he died last September, rice diet doctor Walter Kempner, 94 admitted whipping patients who didn't stick to the no-salt, no-fat regimen of rice and fruit that he prescribed "I was what one called strange," Kempner said In a death bed deposition although he denied charges by former patient Sharon Ryan that he turned her into his "sexual sex slave" for 20 years Ryan's lawsuit, filed in 1993, claimed that shortly after she came to Kempner's Duke University clinic to lose weight in 1970, the doctor reprimanded her for gaining weight ordered her to remove her clothes and whipped her with a riding crop

Sentence Fits the Crime

As a condition of his probation after Darrell Meadows 26 admitted threatening to kill his girlfriend and their daughter, Judge Clyde Gober of Canton Georgia sentenced Meadows to marry the woman within 45 days.

• After Dennis Cayse was convicted of drunk driving for the fifth time, Hillsboro Ohio, Municipal Judge James Hapner gave Cayse 30 days to move within "easy walking distance" of a liquor store The judge added that anytime Cayse rode in someone else's car he had to be handcuffed to the passenger side door or have someone else sit between him and the driver so he has no chance of grabbing the steering wheel.

Term Limit

Paul D. Morrell 73, easily won re-election to the Franklinville, New York, Town Board in last November's voting even though he died of a heart attack three days before the balloting

Twisted Highway

The Mississippi Senate voted to name part of state Highway 17 for convicted murderer Charles Manson because of a typographical error They meant to name it after Bishop Charles Harrison Mason, founder of the Church of God in Christ. State Sen Travis Little noticed the mix up before the governor signed the bill

When Good Goes Bad

Police Capt Richard Pimental of Taunton Massachusetts whose crime-watch program on local cable television brought him national recognition as the tough talking "Captain Good" was charged with trying to bustle free drinks steal a gun and rig a case against his nephew

Flying Is a Gamble

Swiss air has installed video gambling machines at seats on long distance flights except those to and from the United States. Passengers can bet between 25 cents and a dollar. They can lose no more than $200 and winnings are limited to $3500 "We've found that gambling is about as popular as movies and music " airline spokesperson Ulrich Wohn said. "We're offering lotto, keno and slots because they have a short learning curve "

Nearer, My God to Thee

When a poll by the *London Sunday Times* found that only 34 percent of 200 Anglican priests surveyed could name all of the Ten Commandments church officials defended the priests by noting it is substance that matters not the actual words

• A jury in Sanford, Florida, convicted former television evangelist George Crossley 56, of trying to hire a hitman to kill his arch rival, George "Butch" Walde Crossley, who admitted having an extramarital affair with Walde's estranged wife, hired a government undercover agent to "do something about" Walde.

Not Exactly Disney World

After losing its railroad tracks two grain elevators and its fuel dealer the Canadian village of Torrington Alberta, is attempting to survive economically by luring visitors to the world's first museum dedicated to the one thing the area still has in abundance gophers The museum's main attraction is 67 stuffed rodents dressed up as people.

Role Models

A month after Daniel B Devlin, 51 lost his bid for reelection as mayor of Darby, Pennsylvania, he was charged with robbing a bank of $1500 by telling a teller he had a bomb

• Craig S Johnson 41, the mayor of Snow Hill Maryland, was charged with misconduct for allowing a woman to pose naked on the top of a sheriff's squad car assigned to him The mayor, who also worked as a deputy sheriff reportedly contracted the operator of a pornographic Internet Web site and offered to help do the photo as a "prank" since he was leaving the sheriff's department Local high school students found the pictures on the Web site.

Felonious Friendships

Chicago police superintendent Matt Rodriguez announced he was quitting after the *Chicago Tribune* reported that he was friends with a man convicted of mail fraud and income tax evasion Days later, Washington, D C police chief Larry Soulsby stepped down after his ex roommate was charged with embezzlement and extortion ⓟ

weekly mail

THANKS FOR THE DIVERSITY

Ever since your "Winter Reading" issue (December 22, 1997), I have wanted to write to tell you of my surprise and enjoyment of its literary and spiritual diversity. The surprise came from finding those essays, stories and poems in a newspaper. Then came the latest issue with T. Alan Broughton's "Wake for the Trees," which moved me so much, though I live in the foothills of Mount Mansfield where seed trees mercifully did not happen. I almost wadded that page up for starting the morning fire, plucked it out and will iron it smooth.

— Lea Wood
Underhill

HAVE AN ICE STORM PLAN

Half a million for trees and not a cent to do something to reduce the problems next time around! In 50 or 60 years, when another massive ice storm hits, how stupid are the people of Burlington going to think we were not to start burying power lines not to establish a program of cutting trees and branches that would bring down lines?

Those in charge have been doing one thing perfectly, at least since the storm — putting themselves on the back.

— Susan Joffe
Burlington

SUPPORT HEMP BILL

Governor Howard Dean and some members of the press paint the bill to grow industrial hemp as a flashback to the 60s and a new move toward a drug culture. So maybe you're dusting off your bell-bottoms and hippie beads for a trip to the State House. Come on down! But you'll be disappointed if you're looking for hazy blue smoke, Janis Joplin and drugged lawmakers stumbling around crying, "legalize, legalize." Instead you'll find a lot of middle-aged folks in suits working away to stop DUI, improve Route 7 and pay for good schools.

But if you want to learn about the many uses of industrial hemp, head to Middlebury. You'll find a classy little family run boutique called Greenfield's. It's right on the main street of the village next to the bridge. You won't find waterpipes, bongs or rolling papers. Instead, you'll find an attractive array of clothing that appears to be made of linen: slacks, shirts, vests and skirts. Made from 100 percent hemp. In addition, you'll find colorful rugs, briefcases, sporty hats, a selection of beautiful paper products and a line of natural cosmetics. These products fill a niche market for natural fibers, much as Vermont cheese and maple syrup do for specialty foods.

Greenfield's is tastefully decorated, hung with vintage signs proclaiming "Hemp for Victory," reminiscent of the push during WWII for farmers to grow hemp in support of the war effort.

Our grandparents and the U.S. government recognized the value of this versatile crop for commonplaces such as paper and rope. But cotton and synthetic fiber industries didn't like the competition. They drove hemp from the marketplace with scare tactics that are still with us today. Now our children are taught to fear industrial hemp because it's a cousin to a popular drug. They deserve better. Just as our teens understand the difference between rootbeer and Miller Lite, they also distinguish between a hemp suit and a marijuana cigarette. Far more confusing and dangerous to youth is our society's love/hate affair with alcohol.

While you're in Addison County take a swing through farm country. The flat, fertile fields reach out toward Lake Champlain. But some of the barns are empty and the fields no longer under cultivation. Perhaps a few of these farmers would like to try growing hemp. Few believe it will drive Vermont agriculture into the future. But hemp can be a piece of the diversified picture just like horses, vegetables, sheep, trout and pick-your-own berries.

Under S. 285 a farmer who wants to grow industrial hemp applies for a 24-month permit from the Agriculture Department. He must get the site approved by the Department of Agriculture. He must show he has a USDA license to grow. And he must post a $2000 bond to deal with any possible violations of the act. Finally, he must buy only approved seed from the Commissioner of Agriculture. State and federal officials will know exactly who is growing industrial hemp and where it is growing. They will be able to inspect the crop regularly. It's a stretch to think this bill will fuel drug use. It does allow farmers to grow a useful crop to supplement their incomes.

Times do change. Like a cycle around, sooner or later industrial hemp will once again take its place on the market as the versatile fiber it has always been. Your grandchildren will chuckle to think that the current misinformation about hemp once passed for some as mainstream opinion.

— Elizabeth Ready
Montpelier

Elizabeth Ready is a Vermont State Senator from Addison County.

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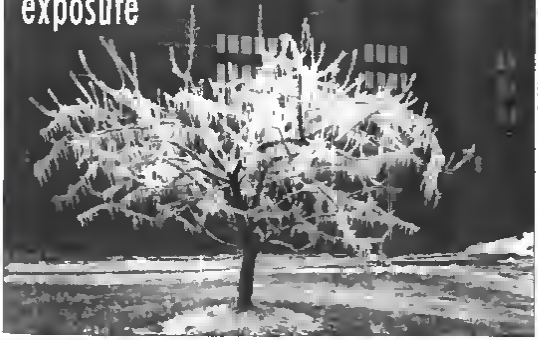

PHOTO: MICHAEL KEENE

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SEVEN DAYS Broadway wild

COVER DESIGN BY SAMANTHA HUNT PHOTO BY MATTHEW THORSEN

THE STRAIGHT DOPE

Dear Cecil,

Why are people bothering with getting colds any more. The zinc-lozenge-cold-cure craze has been around for a couple years now, and the product for stopping common cold symptoms is available in many places (Wal-Mart, for one). Could you check out that site and apply your skills to either (1) debunk it or (2) confirm it?

I first read about the "cure" in the 1980s in one of the science news magazines. As long as I used it at the first signs of a cold, it went away the same day. Now that the discoverer has a decent-tasting formulation, it is not only effective but palatable. It is astounding that now that there is at "cure for the common cold," so few people acknowledge it. I do not believe in authority or anecdotes, but this "cure" has classical studies behind it. What gives with the ignorance?

— William Hathaway, via the Internet

Let's look at this objectively. William Somebody announces Surefire Cold Cure number 1000. Previous attempts have gone 0-for-999. You believe this one's different. The rest of the world evidently doesn't — although the thing has gotten loads of publicity. You may think you've got a better grasp of the science, but the world's got a better grasp of the odds.

The cure we're talking about is sucking on zinc lozenges. George Eby, who came up with the idea and runs the Web site you mentioned, is currently big on the benefits of zinc acetate, but other formulations, such as zinc gluconate, are also popular. One brand of pill combines zinc with echinacea, a plant extract touted for its antiviral properties. Might as well wash it down with some chicken soup — a lot of people still believe in that, too.

Here's the story to date:

• 1979. George Eby's three-year-old daughter starts coming down with a cold. Since her immune system has been suppressed following leukemia treatment, he fears that she's in for a nasty one. She sucks on a zinc pill. Two hours later her symptoms have vanished. Whoa, thinks George. He begins researching zinc's curative powers.

• 1984. Eby and associates report in a medical journal that sucking on zinc gluconate lozenges regularly reduced the average duration of cold symptoms to a group of 65 patients. Other researchers subsequently report similar results.

Skeptics are quick to attack. Among other criticisms, they claim zinc lozenges have a distinctively yucky taste that may have skewed the results: "The significant reduction in the duration of common colds with zinc gluconate lozenges ... may be due to ... the subjects' belief that anything tasting as bad as zinc and with as much aftertaste as zinc must be good medicine" (Farr and Gwaltney 1987).

A related possibility: Patients were shortlisted to report a recurrence of cold symptoms for fear they'd have to resume taking those god-awful pills. Several subsequent studies that try to minimize the problem of taste (for example, by making sure the placebo used as a neutral taste equally bad) find that zinc lozenges have little or no effect on colds.

Zinc advocates don't give up. They argue that the lozenges used in the negative studies were of a type that inactivated the zinc.

• 1996. A team of researchers at the Cleveland Clinic Foundation publish a study claiming that patients who took zinc gluconate lozenges got over their colds in 4.4 days on average, compared to 7.6 days for patients taking a placebo. The anti-zinc camp objects that the Cleveland study has fallen into the same trap as the Eby study — the subjects could tell which lozenges contained zinc, so their responses were biased. Were not the Cleveland researchers aware? For their conclusions are based merely on the patients' personal assessment of their symptoms rather than on objective clinical measures, which doesn't give you much confidence.

Further complicating matters is the revelation that prior to publishing their study (but after completing their research) two Cleveland researchers bought stock in a company selling zinc lozenges. The stock of the company rose substantially when the study results were published.

So, am I skeptical? I'm always skeptical. There have been only a [illegible] of zinc studies involving small numbers of patients and yielding [illegible] inconclusive results. (Current score: Four studies say it works, [illegible] say it doesn't.) A similar situation arose 20 years ago, only the cold in question was vitamin C. That controversy ended indecisively, and today you don't hear much about vitamin C as a cold cure. I'll bet [illegible] a jumbo box of Contac that the same thing happens to zinc.

— CECIL ADAMS

Have something you need to get straight? Cecil Adams can deliver the Straight Dope on any topic. Write Cecil Adams at the Chicago Reader, 11 E. Illinois, Chicago, IL 60611, or e-mail him at cecil@chicagoreader.com.

WONDER BRIBE?

Hey, you gotta feel for the guy. Rep. Steve Howard of Rutland Town is an up-and-coming young turk in the Vermont Democratic Party. He's only 26, but Lil Stevie Wonder is serving his third term under the golden dome. Plus, he's served one term as the state chairman of the Vermont Democratic Party.

It hasn't been easy. A couple years ago Lil Stevie dropped about 100 pounds and made the big sexual preference splash as he came roaring out of the closet. He's talked openly about his desire to one day become Vermont's first gay governor, but right now his sights are set on being our next secretary of state. But Lil Stevie Wonder's got one little problem, and it ain't the incumbent secretary of state Republican Jim Milne. Nope. Lil Stevie's problem is called Deborah Markowitz.

Like Stevie, Markowitz is a Democrat. Unlike Stevie, however, she's an attorney with an impressive resume, particularly on the municipal government front. Deb was director of the Vermont League of Cities and Towns' Municipal Law Center for seven years.

For some reason Lil Stevie doesn't fancy a primary with Markowitz. It's not that he's afraid of losing, he insists; rather it's his belief that "it'd be better for the Democratic Party not to have a primary." So for the good of the party, Lil Stevie Wonder did what had to be done — he offered her a bribe. The intermediary was Rep. Ben Rose of Williston, a friend of Deb's. And oh, what a bribe it was!

Lil Stevie wants Markowitz to drop out of the race. In return he promises he'll appoint her his chief deputy and — get this — he will guarantee that her pay and his pay will be equal. How generous of the man! (Milne earns $63,000 a year. His chief deputy, John Howland Jr., makes $50,000.)

And Lil Stevie sweetened the bribe with a promise that if he were to lose to Milne by more than five percentage points in November he would not run for the post two years hence. What a gentleman!

Markowitz tells Inside Track that at first she thought it was "a joke." When she realized Lil Stevie Wonder was serious, she says she found the offer "insulting."

"It wasn't intended as a bribe," says Lil Stevie with all the chutzpah of a veteran Chicago alderman. He says he heard somewhere Markowitz had said she wanted the top job because "she needed the money."

"I never heard that before in my life," Markowitz tells Inside Track.

Steve Howard says he's paid his political dues. He's worked for the Democratic Party since he was 10 years old. "I organized Rutland County for the Peter Welch campaign (1990)," boasts Howard. "from my dorm room at Boston College!"

Wowee! Maybe that explains why Dick Snelling trounced Peter Welch in Rutland County by more than 14 points that year. And in Lil Stevie Wonder's home town, Snelling won by 32 points! That's some serious dues paying for ya.

"I'm very confident I'm going to win the primary," says Stevie.

Yadda, yadda, yadda.

BY PETER FREYNE

INSIDE TRACK

Press Secretary Search — WCAX Weatherwoman **Sharon Meyer** is not in the running to be Gov. Howard Dean's next press secretary. It was a little joke last week, alright? But based on the feedback from Sharon's faith ful following — some of whom were quite upset at the prospect of losing their TV weath ergirl — Inside Track suggests Sharon consider a run for governor. She's certainly more popular than the incumbent.

Seriously now, our reliable sources report the names of three Vermont journalists — all female — who are in the running: **Bridget Barry Carwell** of Ch. 3, **Susan Allen**, the editorial page writer for *The Burlington Free Press*, and **Diane Derby** at the Vermont Press Bureau.

However, Derby tells Inside Track this week she has withdrawn her name from consideration. Our sources also say there are unnamed candidates from Washington, D.C. Word is, Ha-He wants a press secretary he can travel with, thus filling the hole left by the departure of **Bob Regan**, his former national political operative and soutmate in the friendly skies. Cool!

Formgate Update — Wouldn't you know there would be a Vermont connection to Monica Lewinsky, the most famous lover Bill Clinton never had? WVNY-TV morning anchor **Alicia Tahanian** was a White House intern this summer, too. She tells Inside Track she vaguely remembers seeing Monica around, but she does remember one rather awkward encounter with the Prez. It happened at the press corps picnic that summer. Big Bill were speechless, she says, when he shook hands with her on a receiving line. "He was shaking my hand. His mouth was open and nothing came out," recalls Alicia.

Later the Prez saw her in a White House hallway and explained away the awkward moment by telling Alicia she reminded him of Hillary. Like Hillary, Alicia went to Wellesley. She told the Prez.

"Must be that Wellesley presence," replied Clinton. Sounds like the Prez was pulling a Jimmy Carter and lusting in his heart.

Leahy Republicans — The latest campaign financial report filed by U.S. Senator **Patrick Leahy** indicates continued GOP support. Former Republican Lt. Gov. **Ralph Foote**, who lost to **Phil Hoff** in the 1964 gubernatorial race, donated $100. BankNorth boss **Bill Chadwick** chipped in $1000, as did **Angelo Pizzagalli**. Ex-Republican state Sen. **Art Gibb** sent $500, and **Jan Eastman**, director of the Richard A. Snelling Center for Government at UVM, sent St. Patrick $200. Leahy's GOP chal lenger, Massachusetts millionaire Bathful **Jack McMullen**, has opened a campaign office in Burlap and hired **Kim Lamer**, who formerly worked in Lt. Gov. **Barbara Snelling's** office, as political director. Jack who?

Media Notes — Preliminary numbers on the latest Arbitron ratings indicate the bleeding sustained by WIZN with the departure of "Corm & the Coach" wasn't as bad as some anticipated. "The Wizard" finished second to WOKO for all listeners 12+. Champ 101.3 and WEZF tied for third place, followed by Triple-X 95 and "The Buzz" at 99.9 FM. For listeners 18-34, WIZN came out on top. But starting April 25, Steve Cormier and **Lana Wilder** reunite for a morning drive show on Champ. Coach Tom Brennan is due to arrive in the fall. "Imus In the Morning" will move over to sister station 96.7 FM, "The Pulse." Interesting. ⓧ

BACK TALK

BY PAULA ROUTLY

CURTAIN UNCERTAIN: You can forget about dinner before the show these days unless you think a slice is nice. Especially on weeknights, curtains are rising earlier and earlier in an effort to get theatergoers home to bed at a decent hour. "Audiences have been requesting it, especially if they are coming from out of town," says Natalie Neuert of the George Bishop Lane Series. "They don't want to get home, you know, at mid-night." The old 8 o'clock rule has been replaced with a hodge-podge of policies. At the Flynn, most weekday shows now start at 7:30. Weekend stuff still gets underway at 8. The Lane Series has left its opera and recitals alone, but has scheduled a mid-week production of *Romeo and Juliet* for 7. "Ultimately the issue is the ending time of the show and getting up and going to work, or school, the next morning," Neuert says of the three-hour production she hopes will attract junior high school-aged Leonardo DiCaprio fans. Up at Royall Tyler, Vermont Stage took its cue from the Flynn, with a 7:30 curtain throughout the entire run of *Mad River Rising*. Of course, the waters had already overflowed their banks by the time one arts writer showed up half an hour late. Merce Cunningham would have been a similar story had the hardcoded at Sweet Tomatoes not been up on modern dance. According to Neuert, most theater goers are keeping up with the time changes. "If you are spending 50 bucks on a ticket, you don't want to miss the first hour — that is for sure," she says. The next biggest challenge after arriving *in medias res*? Finding a Burlington bistro still serving afterwards.

BASS CASE: Most symphony directors spend more time dealing with money than music. But instrumental, not administrative, talents were required of Tom Philson at the Friday night concert of the Vermont Symphony Orchestra. Seems Tish Hinojosa brought her guitarist and piano player along from Texas, but left the rhythm section back home. The sound was not quite right, even with four acoustic basses sawing away. So conductor Kate Tamarkin drafted Philson on 24-hour notice to play electric bass. "I learned the songs overnight. We had rehearsal the next day and boom," Philson says. The band was very flattering. "The guitarist said, 'Our regular bass player doesn't even play some of those things.'"

IN BRIEF: Archer Mayor packs a lot of research and local color into his Vermont-based detective novels. In *Bellows Falls*, his protagonist policeman ends up hanging from his fingernails from a catwalk at the Flynn. The next book in the series will involve another prominent edifice — the Statehouse in Montpelier. In the interest of research, Mayor has spent the last few weeks "wandering around the hallways searching for tall tales." Shouldn't have to go too far. A logging accident is the narrative hook in *Mud Season* — an indie movie to be filmed in Vermont this spring. Casting director Rob Lewbel is considering Rusty Dewess for the lead, but the local lack of old men and Asian actors has him stumped. The road may not hold out for the duration of the spring shoot. But Lewbel, who worked on *Waterworld*, *Pulp Fiction* and *Men in Black*, is already talking "creative license." Nine hundred years after she died in a German convent, the visionary abbess Hildegard of Bingen has become a real cult figure in medieval music circles. Anima has been singing her praises since the group formed 10 years ago in Central Vermont. But a new compact disc, recorded by the internationally acclaimed Annoymous 4, has brought her sacred *oeuvre* to a whole new level. *The Washington Post* called it "graceful, serene music, with substantial crossover interest." The fab four will join local and international music scholars at the first-ever Hildegard conference scheduled for November, right here in Burlington. Dysfunctional loves comes naturally to naive artist and *Seven Days* cartoonist Dug Nap. His work fits right in at the American Visionary Art Museum in Baltimore, where it will be featured in a special exhibit entitled, "Eros and Error: Love Profane and Divine." The titles of the winning tableaux paint a clearer picture: "Call From Eve," "I Cried a Lot," "Which Came First, the Chicken or the Anxiety?" and "You Bastard, Bob!" Bernie Sanders is getting his name out there these days. Not only in congressional circles, but celebrity circles. In an interview with *George* magazine, actor Lili Taylor considers a bid for the presidency. Among her smart, edgy answers is the one about a running mate. You guessed it. Bern, baby, bern. ⓥ

"Most people have violence in them. What allows us to keep it under control?" — Daniel Hecht

Mind over murder

PHOTO MATTHEW THORSEN

writer Daniel Hecht's brainy new thriller makes him a million dollar man

By Heather Stephenson

The statues in the garden were the first sign of something amiss — their heads lopped off like golf balls from a tee, blank eyes staring at his feet. Then, as he approached the hunting lodge Daniel Hecht found an expensive bureau splintered in pieces 30 feet from the window through which it had been thrown. Inside the lodge, sinks were ripped from the walls, and solid steel was twisted like strands of licorice.

"The place was trashed beyond belief," recalls Hecht who had been asked to assess the damage vandals had done to the home of a family friend who was out of town at the time.

The experience haunted him for years. Why would someone rip doors from the furnace with near-superhuman force, but leave valuable jewelry and furs untouched?

When the 47-year-old former musician from the Montpelier area decided he wanted to write a novel, he knew he had the start of a good thriller. The publishing world agreed. The book, officially released last month, has already netted Hecht more than $1 million — an enormous sum for a beginning author.

"I had no idea we were talking numbers like this," Hecht says, still sounding surprised. "I didn't know it would sell at all."

But New York agent Nicole Aragi was more confident. She found Hecht's manuscript on her desk in 1996 and was "riveted" by the tale.

"I thought everyone in publishing would want it," she says, speaking from her Manhattan office. "I knew it had great commercial potential, and great literary potential as well."

After a three-week auction that had the publishing world abuzz, Viking offered an $800,000, two-book contract. Sales across Europe and in Japan followed, notching the total advances in seven figures.

The novel, called *Skull Session*, is "a brilliant mixture of adventure and imagination and science," says Courtney Hodell, the senior editor at Viking who bought the book. "It had so much strange information about the brain, but never in a didactic way."

Although celebrity and self help books often command large advances, "this much money for a first novel is unusual," says Celia McGee, publishing columnist for *The New York Observer*, a weekly newspaper that follows the industry. "I would say it happens once every six months, maybe a little more often."

The reason for Hecht's success? He's written a smart thriller that combines the violent suspense of a Stephen King novel with characters you might grow to care about. And he throws in a healthy dose of neurology to boot.

It's a combination the publishers banking on. While Hecht applies himself to his next narrative, his agent is hard at work selling movie rights on the last.

Skull Session opens with a murder. Someone or something with supernatural strength rips through a mansion in Westchester County, New York and area teenagers begin to disappear. It's a plot readers would expect from a horror writer. But the book's concerns are more cerebral than those of most thrillers.

Hecht's protagonist is Paul Skoglund, a Vermonter with Tourette's Syndrome, which can cause motor ticks, outbursts of swearing and other inappropriate behavior. Just as Hecht was summoned to assess the damage at the hunting lodge, Skoglund is hired to clean up the mess at his aunt's mansion. As he cuss back on his medicine and gets more entangled in the family mystery, the book raises troubling questions about the power of the brain.

"Are you an intentional being?" Hecht asks from a brightly patterned chair in his living room, summarizing one of the central queries in the novel. Or "are you a set of chemicals — a biological machine?"

The questions hover in the casually elegant room. Undisturbed, an old tabby rescued from the streets of Paris purrs sleepily on the couch. Bold canvases painted by Hecht's friends and relatives hang on the walls above a stone fireplace, and a stereo plays ancient vocal music. Outside, falling snow obscures the mountain view.

The house, which Hecht shares with his wife, Stella Hovis, and their three-year-old son, Milo, seems to represent beauty, culture and restraint. But Hecht is interested in our darker side.

"Most people have violence in them," he says. "There are things that have made me mad enough I would think of killing someone.

"I haven't done it yet," he adds with a quick laugh. "But what allows us to keep it under control?"

Hecht started his life in Mount Kisco, New York, living in an artist's colony founded by his father, an amateur pianist and composer who made his money in international public relations.

"It was a very Bohemian group — a hotbed of arts and social ferment," Hecht recalls. Someday, he plans to write a book about the place, one of about five or six novels he has

Continued on page 12

BY PAMELA POLSTON

sound

rhythm & news

AMEN CORNER Pass! Looking for salvation and I don't mean the army kind? Wanna be moved by the spirit and I don't mean the alcohol kind? Then climb on board the gospel train and ride on down to Red Square next Sunday (dont need no ticket but you do need reservations) That's what I did last Sabbath morning, and I am here to testify unanimous, that I was moved to tears cheers and clapping like I haven't done since a three hour service with the Rev Al Green in Memphis Tennessee. Yes, Inc! Red Square serves up hallelujahs with the omelettes the righteous vocal fare of Sandra Wright, Christine Adler and Kip Meaker (Tammy Fletcher usually makes the quartet but she was absent last Sunday) Wright's voice alone almost literally blows the room away — like the bass from a huge speaker, you feel it in the chest which is very close to the heart. If that's not divine inspiration, I don't know what is The woman is *mighty*.

Red Square (located in the former Alfredo's across from City Hall) is quickly becoming an active participant in Burlington's downtown music scene. In addition to the Gospel Brunch which I can recommend highly enough—owners Jack O Brien and Mark Gardner are rounding out the week with lounge nearly every night of the week — including the new Ultra Lounge on Sunday evening. People get ready

CLUB NEWS For those of you who miss Neil Cleary aka Stupid Club, as I do the report is he's still enjoying Austin's pleasant climate and enduring its escapist live music scene — "I'm still getting egged on gigs down here," he laments But the good news is the singer-songwriter is getting a review for his solo CD *Made to Feel*, in *Opinion Insiders*, the music mag's special to the industry what Cleary dubs an "AR&R cip sheet " That's gotta help.

DO GOOD DEPT What happened to 14-year-old Andrew Allen we wouldn't wish on the sickest people in the world, an accident on an all-terrain vehicle that left him with traumatic brain injury and the foreseeable future in a wheelchair The brave young Andrew is slowly making progress and communicating with hand and eye signals — he recently reentered school in Peoples Academy in Morrisville Yet the Lake Elmore lad has a long road ahead and friends, community members — and total strangers — might like to know how they can help For starters there's a benefit at the Rusty Nail in Stowe this Thursday with family activities ski races, raffle and live performances from volunteer musicians including Jon Gailmont Knol Kass, Mary, Dan & Ted George Woodard, Rebecca Padula, and later that night Jamie Lee & the Raiders. But if you can't join the fun you can donate directly on a special fund set up for the Allen family Call 253-7328 for info. • Also in Stowe Tammy Fletcher & the Disciples and Dan Rhoades contribute tunage to a benefit for local resident Ralph

Continued on page 10

Get something on tell Rhythm & News? Call *Pamela* at (802) 864 5684 Or mail your tip to PO Box 1164 Burlington, VT 05402 or e-mail to newsday@together.net

BAND NAME OF THE WEEK: *executive branch*

PHOTO: MATTHEW THUISSEN

...SKI PATROL Burlington's funky rockers Augusta Brown have something in common with that other Brown — Junior: They're one of the hardest-working bands in show business. All jaunt back from cut-ups Northeast touring to entertain the Swingline at Cafe Shadrina in Jeffersonville this Friday.

4 WEDNESDAY

STACY STARKWEATHER & JAMES HARVEY (Frank Sinatra music) R.S.V.P. 6 p.m NC **MICHELLE LAURIERE** (French & German cabaret) Leunig's, 8.30 p.m NC **ERIC OLSEN** (orig. acoustic) Red Square, 9 p.m. NC. **ONE MORE WEDNESDAY NIGHT** (Grateful Dead DJ) Manhattan Pizza, 9 p.m NC **YANKEE POT ROAST** (rock) Nectar's, 9:30 p.m. NC. **SELAH GROUPO SEXTET, GREEN STREET** (jazz) Club Metronome, 9 p.m $5 **CHAD HOLLISTER** (pop) Sweetwaters 9 p.m. NC. **ERIC OLSEN** (orig. acoustic) Red Square, 9 p.m NC. **CURRENT RANGERS, MORE THE MERRIER** (groove rock) Club Toast 9:30 p.m. $2/4 KARAOKE, J P's Pub, 9:30 p.m NC. KARAOKE, Chenos, 9 p.m NC. **ATLANTIC CROSSING** (Celtic) Good Times Cafe Hinesburg, 7:30 p.m. NC **CARL JEFFRONCE, GEORGE VOLKAND & JUSTIN ROSE** (jazz) Cambridge Coffee House Smuggler's Notch Jeffersonville, 7 p.m Donations.

5 THURSDAY

BIG JOE DURNELL & FRIENDS (blues-jazz) Halvorson's, 8:30 p.m. $2 **ELLEN POWELL & JOE CLEARY** (jazz) Leunig's, 8.30 p.m. NC. **KATHERINE QUINN** (singer-songwriter) Red Square, 9 p.m NC. **MR. FRENCH** (rock) Nectar's, 9:30 p.m NC. **HALF-STEP** (groove rock) Manhattan Pizza 10 p.m NC. **DJ PROSTIE, RUN PSY CHOTHOPE, CRAIG MITCHELL, DATAFIX** (benefit for Rhombus Gallery) Club Toast 9:30 p.m $5 **FOUR CHORD MANUAL, BAG OF PANTIES, MILKY MY, HANGOUT LAST WORDS** (alt rock) Club Metronome 9 p.m $5 **D. JARVIS** (orig. acoustic) J P's Pub, 9 p.m. NC. **GOOD NIGHT BLUE, DAVIS** Cactus Cafe, 9 p.m. NC **SOL CHAMELEONS** (jazz/Latin/rock)—Vermont Pub & Brewery, 10 p.m. NC. **DAVE ADAIR TRIO** (acoustic rock) Trackside Tavern Winooski 9 p.m NC **KARAOKE** Edgewater Pub, Colchester, 9 p.m. NC. **MR. JAZZ & WO DUKE NOTHOUSE** Patches, Holiday Inn, 9 p.m. NC. **DANCE PARTY** (DJ Norm Blanchard) Cheers, 9 p.m. NC. **GUY COLASACCO** (singer-songwriter) Jakes, 5:30 p.m. NC. **WO** (DJ & karaoke), Thirsty Turtle Waterbury 9 p.m. NC. **DOMINY FOR ANDREW ALLEN** (family activities music, contests) Rusty Nail, Stowe 5 p.m $5 followed by **JAMIE LEE & THE RAIDERS** (country) 9 p.m. $6. **MARK LIVELAND** (progressive country) Thrush Tavern Montpelier, 7:30 p.m. NC. **OPEN MIKE** Gallagher's, Waitsfield 8:30 p.m NC.

6 FRIDAY

PICTURE THIS (jazz) Windjammer 5 p.m. NC. **PIRATE MOON** (acoustic) Ruben James, 5 p.m NC, followed by **DJ NIGHT** 9 p.m. NC **BOOTLEGS & BANSHEES** (Irish) Lake Chamber, 7:30 p.m NC. **JAMES HARVEY** (jazz piano) Red Square 9 p.m. NC **FUNGUS 'N GROOVE** (jazz) Rhombus Gallery 9 p.m $3-6 **JAZZ QUARTET** Manhattan Pizza, 10 p.m NC **ARROW** (DJ Craig Mitchell) 135 Pearl, 9 p.m. $5 **MOON DOGS LEVEL KYPE** (groove rock) Club Toast 9:30 p.m. $5/7 **METRO LOUNGE** (lounge DJ) Club Metronome, 5 p.m NC followed by **JUKEBOX** (disco) 9 p.m $5 **WO X-RAYS** (rock/r&b) Nectar's, 9:30 p.m NC **WHISKEY BEFORE BREAKFAST** (Irish) Vermont Pub & Brewery, 10 p.m NC **WO GREATER SIN** (rock) Alley Cats, 9:30 p.m. NC **COMEDY ZONE** (stand-up) Radisson Hotel 8 & 10 p.m $7 **RUN FOR COVER** (rock) Franny O's 9:30 p.m NC. **DANCE PARTY** (DJ Norm Blanchard) Cheers 9 p.m. NC. **EMPTY POCKETS** (rock) Patches Pub, Holiday Inn 9 p.m. NC. **HIGHLAND WEAVERS** (Irish) Tuckaway's Sheraton Hotel 9 p.m NC. **FULL CIRCLE** (rock) Trackside Tavern, Winooski, 9 p.m $2. **NORTHERN JAM** (rock) Edgewater Pub, Colchester 9 p.m NC **DANCIN' BEAN** (country dance & instruction) Cobblewick Milton 7:30 p.m. $5 **LIVE JAZZ** Diamond Jim's Grille, St Albans 7:30 p.m NC. **TAMMY FLETCHER & WO DISCIPLES** (soul/blues) Thirsty Turtle, Waterbury 9 p.m $2. **DAN RHODES QUARTET** (jazz) Ville Tragara, Stowe 6:30 p.m $7 50 **JAMIE LEE & THE RAIDERS** (country) Rusty Nail Stowe, 9 p.m $6. **NOAH CA PADULA** (acoustic) Three Mountain Lodge, Jeffersonville, 6 p.m. NC. **AUGUSTA BROWN** (funky rock) Cafe Bandaloo, Jeffersonville, 10 p.m $3 **RUSS FLANAGAN** (rock) Gallagher's, Waitsfield, 9:30 p.m. $4 **ROCKIN' RADIOS** (rock) Mad Mountain Tavern, Waitsfield, 9 p.m $4 **DAVE KILLIN QUINTET** Charlie-ns, Montpelier, 10 p.m NC. **WOOD TICK SNAKES WO BARLEY** (traditional/Celtic) The Parlor Hardwick,

advice

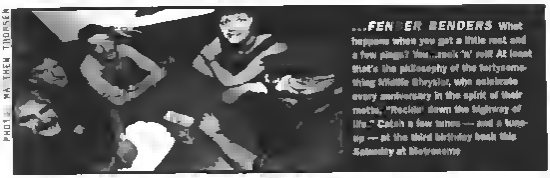


PHOTO: MATTHEW TUDORKEN

...FENDER BENDERS What happens when you get a little rest and a few pings? You...rock 'n' roll! At least that's the philosophy of the forty-something Middle Ebrylist, who celebrate every anniversary in the spirit of their motto, "Rockin' down the highway of life." Catch a few tunes — and a hangup — at the third birthday bash this Saturday at Metronome.

8 p.m. $5 JUKEBOX HEROES (rock) Rude Dog Tavern, Vergennes, 9 p.m. NC.

7 SATURDAY

HIGHLAND WEAVERS (Irish) Finnigan's Pub, 5:30 p.m. NC. ALESSANDRA ORCHESTRA (jazz/spoken word) Slade Hall, UVM 9 p.m. NC. MONKEYS WITH CARROTS (rock/alt) Castus Cafe, 9:30 p.m. NC. DOUGLESS & UNDERGROUND (Irish) Lake Champ, 7:30 p.m. NC. LISA MCCORMICK (singer-songwriter) Burlington Coffeehouse at Rhombus Gallery 8 p.m. $6 THE 3-RUFS (rock/r&b) Newark, 9:30 p.m. NC. LITTLE MARTIN (DJ) 135 Pearl 9 p.m. $4/5 BOB FLANDERS (folk, CD release party) Red Square 8:30 p.m. NC. DJ NIGHT Ruben Jaxon, 9 p.m. NC. THE PANIC, DEVIL'S DIE, HOSHONOW (alt rock) Club Toast 9:30 p.m. $5 SLO BOTE JEZZ (jazz) Manchester Pizza, 10 p.m. NC. MOLDIE CHRYSLER (vintage rock) Club Metronome 8 p.m. $2 followed by RETROGRAD (DJ Craig Mitchell) 9 p.m. NC. THE WARRENS (rock) Vermont Pub & Brewery, 10 p.m. NC. COUNTY ZOO (stand up) Radisson Hotel 8 & 10 p.m. $7 KARAOKE Franny O's 9:30 p.m. NC. GUY CARLASACCO (singer-songwriter) Jakes, 5:30 p.m. NC. EMPTY POCKETS (rock) Parthos Pub, Holiday Inn 9 p.m. NC. BOB GESSER (jazz guitar) Tuckaway's, Sheraton Hotel, 9 p.m. NC. FULL CIRCLE (rock) Trackside Tavern, Winooski 9 p.m. $2 BLUEWEED JAM (rock) Edgewater Pub, Colchester 9 p.m. NC. SHANE & CHARLOTTE MURPHY (folk/strong guitar & viol.). Grateful Dead Deli, Essex, noon, followed by REBECCA PANOLA (contemporary folk) 1 p.m. Downtown PICTURE THIS (jazz) The Tavern, Inn at Essex, 7 p.m. NC. DANCE PARTY (DJ) Noran Blanchard, Cheers, 9 p.m. NC. JUKEBOX HEROES (rock) Rude Dog Tavern, Vergennes, 9 p.m. NC. WINO'S TEA COMPANY OPEN MIKE (folk/Celtic) Rupert Community Coffee House, 7:30 p.m. $3 JUGGRGROOVE (blues) Thirsty Turtle, Waterbury, 9 p.m. NC. SOUL CITY (Motown) Rusty Nail Stowe, 8:30 p.m. $8 EAST COAST MUSCLE (blues) Cafe Basilico, Jeffersonville 9:30 p.m. $3 STRANGEFOLK (groove rock) Dibden Center Johnson State College 8 p.m. $5/10 WATER'S EDGE REVIVAL (acoustic) Mad Mountain Tavern, Waitsfield 4 p.m. NC, followed by MOTHER BROWN (rock/reggae) 9 p.m. $4 LONG LANE (rock) Gallagher's Waitsfield 9:30 p.m. $4 OPEN MIKE WITH JIE WOODS (acoustic) Benny's Pub, Franklin 7 p.m. NC.

8 SUNDAY

SAM GUARNACCIA (classical guitar) Windjammer 11 a.m. NC. SANDRA WRIGHT, TAMMY FLETCHER, CHRISTINE ADLER & RIP WEAKER (gospel brunch). Red Square 11 a.m. & 3 p.m. $11/95 w/brunch. followed by LAURA WILLIAMS NIGHT (60s organ) 8:30 p.m. NC. B. JARVIS (acoustic rock) JP's Pub, 9 p.m. NC. JAMMY NIGHT (Dead stuff) Club Metronome 9 p.m. NC. LAURA SKY (jazz) Nozzle's, 9:30 p.m. NC. TNT (karaoke & DJ) Thirsty Turtle, Waterbury 8 p.m. NC. MANDI LEGRAND & SARAH MUNRO (acoustic sing.). LaBrioche Cafe Montpelier 11 a.m. NC. PAUL OLIAX (acoustic guitar) Main Street Bar & Grill Montpelier 11 a.m. NC. TAMMY FLETCHER & THE DISCIPLES, "DON JOHNNY" (soul/blues benefit for Ralph Anderson) Blue Tooth Stowe 7 p.m. $10 incl dinner

9 MONDAY

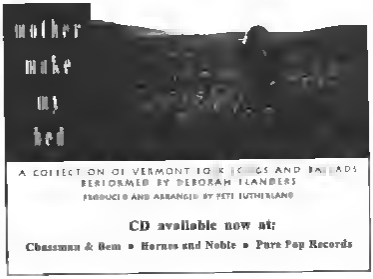
SEAN DALEY (orig. acoust.) Red Square 9 p.m. NC. SHADOW GOD (rock) Nozzle's 9:30 p.m. NC. FREAK WATER, MIKE LOELAND & SHELLAN (country crossover) Club Toast 9:30 p.m. $5 BIG-BAR LOUNGE (DJ) Club Metronome, 9 p.m. NC. TECHNO NIGHT (DJs) 135 Pearl 10 p.m. $4 ALLEN CAY JAM W/MARK NELSON (blues-rock) Alley Cats 9 p.m. NC. COFFEE HOUSE W/SMALL AXE (acoustic). Horn of the Moon Montpelier 8:30 p.m. Donations.

10 TUESDAY

OPEN STAGE W/DAVE STRAWTHUM (acoustic) Burlington Coffeehouse at Rhombus, 8 p.m. $2 & SNEAKERS JAZZ BAND (anniversary celebration) Speakers Winooski 8 p.m. $6 STEVE GOLDBERG TRIO (jazz) Red Square 9 p.m. NC PAUL ANDEL & CYPH SLATS (jazz). Lounge 8:30 p.m. NC. DJ NIGHT Ruben Jaxon, 9 p.m. NC. THE DETONATORS (rock/r&b) Nozzle's 9:30 p.m. NC. FLASHBACK: HITS OF THE '70S (DJ) Club Toast, 10 p.m. NC/$5 under 21. LITTLE MARTIN & CRAIG MITCHELL (DJs). Club Metronome, 9 p.m. NC. BUSS & CO. (rock) J P's Pub 9:30 p.m. NC. JALAPENO BOYS. (rock) Cheers, 9 p.m. NC. TAMMY FLETCHER & THE DISCIPLES (soul/r&b; Mardi Gras party) Walk About Creek Lodge, Stowe 8 p.m. $4 ALAN HARKCASTLE (guitar) Gallagher's, Waitsfield, 9 p.m. NC. RUSS CHAPMAN (acoustic) Three Mountain Lodge Jeffersonville, 6 p.m. NC.

All clubs in Burlington unless otherwise noted.

NC = No cover. Also look for "Sound Advice" at http://www.bigheavyworld.com/burlington.music/



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...reviews...

SPENCER LEWIS, *CALLING IN THE WINTER* (Quarry Rock; 16 songs, CD) — I received this at the end of 1997 and didn't get to review it when it should have been, which was the holiday season. That's because *Calling in the Winter* is a collection of traditional Christmas carols, with a handful of very lovely Lewis originals interspliced. All are instrumental played handily by Lewis on guitar, violins, horns, bells and shakers. Patty Warlick contributes tambourine and vocal tones. Though the melodies are familiar — and the jingly bells say Christmas as surely as holly — Lewis has arranged the tunes so uniquely that only a few of them make you think, "It's time to start wrapping presents. Though the holidays are past, *Calling in the Winter* — recorded at Lewis' Quarry Studio in Berlin and mastered at Charles Eller's — is worth a listen all year long. — DP

THE EMILY ROCK GROUP JINX, THE BOY WONDER (Slingshot Records; seven-inch) — When was the last time a new band sprang up and got any respect in this town? A decent gig, even? It seems Burlington has lost more music to the seductive hollow of the splendid roomy cities in the last year or so than it has spawned. There hasn't been any fresh water come down these pipes in a long time. If only... Oh, come on, it's Emily Rock Group. Have you been waiting out side that whole time? That is a nine-split 7" single out of Raleigh, North Carolina, that Emily has somehow found itself on. These tones, "Formula Racer" is the lo-fi epic that dares ask the question you won't find in any physics text: You have a crisply fast car, some liquor and a basic understanding of trajectory. A salamander is crossing the road. How far can you get that little sucker to fly? It's got so many parts. Noodling for awhile at the outset, it builds and builds some more — then snaps into a groove for the verse like (a good hike) the classic Violent Femmes' pow-forward drive. That dirty, nervous leade

Continued on page 10

... reviews ...

Guitarist that gets you all edgy. And the chunk-chunk-a-a-a-a-a guitar line in all the tracks. And then off it goes again. But then she's back — that necessary change, the looking forward to when Emily sucks it up, leases all 12 money good-bye and goes into the studio. It'll be something good. (By the by, The Boy Wonder, Jim Lauzon, "No Hands" on the bi-side is stripped-naked with the-lights-on all over. But they're not from around here so the hell with 'em.) — *Glenn Sorenson*

DEB FLANDERS, *MOTHER MAKE MY BED* (self-released CD) — Deb Flanders isn't just another folksinger with a penchant for traditional tunes, she's the grand-niece of Helen Hartness Flanders the wife of a former Vermont senator who spent 50 years combing the countryside of the Green Mountain State and collecting its song folklore. Deb Flanders pays tribute to her ancestor's hard work, passion and love for the music — and luckily was also blessed with a vibrant soprano with which to deliver her musical heritage. Aficionados of the genre — and the history — will appreciate Flanders' renditions of the dozen selections here, recorded by Charles Effer and produced and arranged by Pete Sutherland who also contributes piano, fiddle and harmonicas. Other musicians include Rick Pratson on double bass, David Fedele on flute, Peter Dayton on clarinet and John Kirk on viola. Flanders supplements her vocals with those of April Werner, Scott Cree and Craig Heindel. The beautifully packaged CD also includes ample liner notes on the songs known lineage. Join Flanders at her CD release party this Saturday at Red Square. — *PF*

Want to get reviewed in SEVEN DAYS? send your CD or tape (one copy, please) info and photo to Sound Advice REVIEW, P.O. Box 1164, Burlington, VT 05402

rhythm & news

Continued from page 8

Anderson who's awaiting a critical liver transplant. The Mad Winter Carnival Dinner Dance, including door prizes and raffle, takes place Sunday at the Elite Tooth on the Mountain Road. • Burlington musician **Brian Perkins** is looking for some Irish ayes for his "Celtic College" — a six-week series of workshops launched last summer offering instruction in Irish and Scottish music from noteworthy northern pickers such as Kevin Murphy, Sarah Blair, Marty Morrissey and Pete Sutherland. For starters, Perkins seeks donations for a silent auction that will accompany a benefit concert at the end of the next series, which starts that Monday. For info about the classes or the March 27 concert/auction call 660-9491. • Not to be overlooked, the **Rhombus Gallery** is going down street for a little help from its friends: a benefit Thursday night — with music, poetry, film and art — for the burgeoning arts space, put together by **Third Eye Productions** and **Club Toast**. Look for performances from Charlie Messing, Rik Palieri, Craig Mitchell, Da'arb, DJ Psychotrope and Frustee. Rhombus director **Marc Awodey** (also a candidate for City Council in Ward 1, by the way), and others. Support local arts people, and the arts will soothe your souls. (P.S. This performance marks the death of Dkach, Burlington's premier, but seldom seen "solationist electronic noise band"; wunderkeeper **Leif Hunneman** and **Loren Tindal** are zealously "moving on to other projects.")

SINGLE TRACKS Anybody nostalgic for listening to music while three-horned into Winooski's beloved institution **Sneakers** can dust off those Converse and celebrate with a couple of one-night stands. No, not *that* band, with a reunion of the infamous Sneakers Jazz Band next Tuesday, followed by bluegrass with Breakaway on Wednesday. Yee-haw. • Summer in the city wouldn't be the same without the Battery Park Concert Series. That's why musicians craving bandshell exposure should send their input or CDs, bios and photos, if you've got 'em, to Burlington City Arts by April Fool's Day. And if you applied last year, just call in your appeal. Submit! • Burlington art rock unit **Crystal Pools** is happy to note that their recent CD — their fifth in three years — was nabbed by a European distributor and is winging its wacky way across the Atlantic. They seem almost equally pleased that three fellow and more famous musicians, Phish, ordered up some copies of *Fringe Benefits* for themselves and the HQ staff at Dreamyam. In short, things are going swimmingly. • Speaking of Phish, the jambows received a half-page, half-snippy commentary in *Rolling Stone* last month for their New Years Eve extravaganza at Madison Square Garden. Reporter Charles M. Young admits he was the only one sitting down, so what does that say? • **Non Compos Mentis** and Pressure Point label-mates **Humans Being** will appear on Wonderdrug's compilation hardcore CD due next month, in the company of **SeasonFight**, **Sam Black Church**, et al. Meanwhile, Pressure Point is working on a new release by **Never Again** — the fan zine **Last Ones Standing**. Look for that round about April. • **Zola Tum** reports they're getting reviewed — *Cousin Bettie* I presume — in the next issue of Boston's *The Hate*. Burlington's only female-powered band takes on TT the Bear's Place in Cambridge this Sunday. • Congratulations to **Strangefolk**, who came in first (*Weightless in Water*) and third (*Lore*) on Pure Pop's Top 20-selling list this week, and consequently were first and second on the Local Top 5, followed by Vipersbone (*Shed*), *Best of the Green Mountain Blues Vol. 2*, and Craig Mitchell and the Orange Factory (*Naked*). ⑦

MYSTIC MAN

By Pamela Polston

When Martin Prechtel comes to Vermont next week, he'll be giving a public talk on grief, praise and community — essentially a dialogue on spiritual paths — *and* a performance of flamenco-styled guitar. But that's not all that sets him apart on the lecture circuit. His life story alone is part of the fascination; his unusual pan-cultural philosophy colors the rest.

Prechtel was 20 years old when he moved to Guatemala. With a Canadian Indian mother and a Swiss-American father and a childhood spent on the Santo Domingo Indian Reservation in Albuquerque, his cultural heritage was already pretty diverse. You might say he was ready for anything. But imagine his surprise when he arrived in a Mayan village and was nabbed by an elder shaman named Nicolas Chivilu, who asked him, in effect, what had taken him so long to get there.

Thus began a most adventurous chapter in Prechtel's extraordinary life. In those 14 years in Guatemala he was trained into shamanhood himself and became a village chief in charge of the initiation of the young people into adulthood. Along the way he also became an accomplished musician picked up a few local languages. But during the civil war in Guatemala, Prechtel faced a damned-if-you-do, damned-if-you-don't situation. "When you are a leader of a village you are like the mayor or something; when the enemy comes in they want you to take their side." If you don't go along with the enemy they want to kill you; he explains; if you do, the villagers want to kill you. Prechtel was forced to flee Guatemala.

Though he now resides in Santa Fe, New Mexico, Prechtel is in some ways a man without a country, states Lincoln's Marianne Lust, producer of "Nightfires" and "Marrow bone," who met him at the annual "Great Mother" conference five years ago. Much in demand as a spiritual teacher, Prechtel is a virtual nomad — and an *habitué* at Robert Bly's Minnesota headquarters. Impressed with his teaching and storytelling talents, Lust invited Prechtel to Vermont. She describes the workshop he is teaching with storyteller Gioia Timpanelli and transpersonal psychologist Tom Verner as "a dialogue with the three of them about different paths, especially the inner mystical path."

Though he's uniquely qualified to integrate Native American and Western ways, Prechtel explains modestly that "I don't try to bring the two cultures together. I try to expose people to a way of thinking through exercises, ritual, verbal and eloquence exercises — to bring them to a point where they can smell and taste the authenticity." Prechtel adds that "my big thing is community," emphasizing spiritual values. In part his talk will address learning to grieve and to praise — the absence of which, he insists, creates a breeding ground for depression and violence.

Prechtel will follow his Burlington talk with a musical performance, cryptically called "Fire and Jasmine," in Middlebury. As his most recent CD, *Nectar*, reveals, Prechtel is as eloquent on guitar as he is telling tales. The music, not surprisingly, is a cross-cultural mix of *nuevo flamenco* with Latin and Caribbean influences. His voice, too, exudes the lusty sincerity of a man who has had to sing for his supper — and run for his life. ⓟ

Martin Prechtel's book, Secrets of the Talking Jaguar, *will be published in March by Putnam.*

"Grief and Praise," a workshop on community, Burlington City Hall Auditorium, February 11, 7:30 p.m. "Fire and Jasmine," Mayan and flamenco guitar, St Stephen's Episcopal Church, Middlebury, February 12, 8 p.m., both with Martin Prechtel

MIND OVER MURDER

Continued from page 7

"waiting to get written."

But his father died when Hecht was only three Three years later, unable to maintain their life in Westchester County, he, his two brothers, his sister and mother set off on what would be a nomadic life At one time or another, he would call the Philippines, Chicago Virginia and Wisconsin home Wherever he lived, Hecht was influenced by the creativity of his family, in which "everyone is an artist," he says

Hecht moved to Vermont in the mid 1970s after falling in love with the area while on a concert tour He lived in Montpelier for 18 years before moving to a country house nearby last spring. He does not want the location of his home publicized for fear that

He knows some readers, expecting bloodless fiction, will find Skull Session *too shocking and gory.*

his spooky book and new-found wealth will attract dangerous characters.

Hecht didn't always dream of being a writer In his first life, he was a musician He was successful then too

At age 19 he was playing lute and classical guitar at Carnegie Recital Hall Later, he switched to steel string guitar, and began composing his own "punk classical" work, a combination of folk, rock, pop, Indian, Irish and jazz idioms. He returned to Carnegie Hall and made his third record with Windham Hill, a label known for New Age music

Just as his career was taking off he was forced to quit Psoriasis attacked his hands leaving them raw and bleeding when he played. By 1986 he was in retirement.

But even when he worked as a musician Hecht was always writing keeping copious journals, penning short stories and sketching ideas for novels When the disease sent him for a tailspin, he turned to writing

"The nice thing about writing is specificity," he says. "You can be very explicit about what you're talking about. You can talk about the tenderness between father and son or lover and lover, you can talk about exactly the thing, whereas in instrumental music

By Marialisa Calta

food

SAY CHEESE

I was looking forward to going to Asiago, a restaurant in Stowe which had received rave reviews from the New York foodie crowd — writers, editors restaurant critics — during the International Wine & Cuisine Expo held in Stowe last July Upon entering, however, I was underwhelmed. The restaurant seemed too brightly lit a little too spare and oddly decorated with red rag painting on white walls and wood floors finished in stripes of dark and light stains. Seated at a corner table, my friends and I realized too late that we were directly under the stereo speaker; our waitress explained that if she turned down the music we would be able to hear the noise of the kitchen. The menu seemed a bit overwritten, every item served on a bed of something with a reduction of something else and a coulis of God-knows what

Asiago Wood Grill & Noodle Bar Bistro
294 Mountain Road, Stowe

But then a basket of good crusty rolls and a complimentary plate of marinated mushrooms arrived, and the evening took a decided turn for the better. It turns out that excellent food and good service can make up for a lot Well, you say Duh.

"Asiago Wood Grill & Noodle Bar Bistro" takes its moniker from the Italian cheese — from the eponymous northern Italian village — which chefs and co-owners Matthew and Joyce Buckels grate on the restaurant's homemade pastas. It's a small place — 12 tables seat a maximum of 48 — with a tiny bar serving wine and beer only Matthew Buckels, who trained at Johnson & Wales culinary school in Rhode Island, says he and his wife came to Vermont from Nantucket restaurants — she is a graduate of the Culinary Institute of America in Hyde Park, New York. This is their first stint as owners.

The restaurant, which opened in December 1996 in the space formerly occupied by Stowe Fine Foods on the Mountain Road, is known for its wood-fired grill and homemade pastas, and if our experience is any measure, its fame will only be increasing One friend ordered a veoison osso bucco ($18) — a bone-in hunk of meat braised forever in the kind of incredibly savory sauce that you want to mop up with bread. I had a moist and flavorful grilled trout with lobster risotto and trumpet mushrooms attractively presented with sprigs of watercress ($16)

I tend to judge restaurants on how they treat vegetarians and Asiago came through with flying colors I recall eggplant, squash and asparagus served with small mounds of mashed potatoes giant couscous, purple sticky rice and mashed sweet potatoes.

But I tend to judge restaurants on how they treat vegetarians, and Asiago came through with flying colors The "Veggie Pallooza" plate ($10) ordered by the third member of our party was a lovely array of wood grilled vegetables — I recall eggplant, squash and asparagus among them — served with small mounds of mashed potatoes, giant couscous, purple sticky rice and mashed sweet potatoes On arrival, the plate looked skimpy but we soon realized that was because the food was served on an oversized platter my friend did not go hungry (Neither did the rest of us; portions were more then ample and I saw several diners leaving with their leftovers in

A wood-grilled flatbread with mushrooms and gorgonzola ($9) rounded out our meal Other selections included a pistachio-crusted salmon ($14 50), a grilled veal chop with a bacon and garlic-herb crust ($18 50) and a

Continued on page 24

Seven Days is pleased to introduce a new monthly feature local restaurant reviews by nationally known critic Marialisa Calta, who writes about food for *The New York Times, Food & Wine Bon Appetit* and *Martha Stewart Living* from her home in Calais Vermont.

The reviewer dines at chosen restaurants anonymously, and *Seven Days* pays the tab, in order to insure "normal" representative meals and service from the restaurant.

Reader suggestions are welcome. Send the name of your favorite eatery to: sevendsy@together.net

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WEDNESDAY 4

music

GREEN MOUNTAIN CHORUS: The Burlington-based *a cappella* group performs barbershop songs about cars and states across the country. Vermont Statehouse, Montpelier. 7:30 p.m. Free. Info 428-3245

FREDERIC RZEWSKI: The pianist and composer presents his "novel for the piano" — a musical ode to "The Road." Rollins Chapel Dartmouth College Hanover, N.H., 8 p.m. $14 50. Info, 603-646 2422.

PLAYING FOR PEACE: The Apple Hill Chamber Players perform on flute, guitar and bassoon Faulkner Recital Hall Hopkins Center Dartmouth College Hanover N.H., 12.30 p.m. Free. Info 603-646-2422.

film

'CAPITAINE CONAN' Heroism or sociopathy? This French film deals with guerrilla warriors adjusting to peace time. Loew Auditorium Hood Museum of Art Dartmouth College. 7:30 p.m. $6 Info. 603-646-2422.

words

DANIEL HECHT READING: The gun tariff-turned-writer reads from his recently published first novel *Skull Session*, which fetched him a million-dollar advance. See story this issue. Bear Pond Books, Montpelier, 7 p.m. Free. Info, 229-0774

RHOMBUS POETRY SERIES: Mark Mormilus shares his verse before an open reading. Rhombus Gallery, 186 College St., Burlington, 8 p.m. $2-6. Info 652-1103.

IN THESE GIRLS HOPE IS A MUSCLE Readers compare notes on the girl woman of *Hoop Dreams*. S. Burlington Library, 2 p.m. Free. Info, 652-7080

VERMONT WRITERS BOOK DISCUSSION: Readers examine the "character" of Vermont in *Dorothy Canfield Fisher's book The House-Maker* Morrisville Library, 7.30 p.m. Free. Info. 888-2616.

kids

HOMESCHOOLERS' STORY HOUR. Kids over five listen to G-rated Greek myths Fletcher Free Library, Burlington, 1.30-2 30 p.m Free. Info 865-7216

STORIES. Children listen, mark and make crafts at the Children's Pages, Winooski 10 a.m. Free. Info 655-1537

STORY TIME. Kids get an earful at Chaucman & Bean Bookseller, Burlington 10 a.m. Free. Info, 862-4332.

PARENTS ANONYMOUS Parents gather for support and assistance around the challenges of childrearing Babysitting goes with the program in Burlington 6-8 p.m Free Info 800-639-4014

e: A Caribbean American boy is abbi's motorcade. A Hasidic Jew is iation. The riots that followed the hts incident" are directly reflected in winning *Fires in the Mirror*. It takes er" actors to raise your conscious-

uary 6. Flynn Theatre, Burlington, 8 50. Info, 863 5966

, three: Straussed out? Relax Chopin and Schubert also wrote nd some three-quarter time with the nphony Orchestra at its annual " fundraiser. It's strictly ballroom re bidding for a chance to conduct y

bruary 7. Sheraton Hotel, S. .30 p.m. $75-125. Info, 800-

roll: Footing and footage go hand he Banff Film Festival — three days dventure films that push the cine nd, while a appropriate, leave you an armchair view of the "best of ore the movies move on to Canada, and Japan

bruary 7. Billings Theater, UVM, , 6:30 & 9 p.m. $7. Register,

nd downs: nt of Vermont's trees were sub- naged in last term. Compe- bec fared even does that have e price of pan- Sumner the rap on sap

Saturday, February 7. Lake Champlain Basin Science Center, Burlington, 1 p.m. $2. Info, 864 1848

altared states: Marriage is mighty big business in Vermont — just ask the folks at Shelburne Farms. But how do you get it together for the big day? Joanne Palmisano covers every thing but the cure for cold feet in a resource guide for brides to be.

Sunday, February 8. Barnes & Noble Bookstores, 2 p.m. Free. Info, 864-8001

dolce vita: You've heard of garlic infused pasta. How about garlic *enthused* pasta? Sweet Tomatoes satisfies your appetite for art, and aruguta, with a special five-course banquet that benefits the Flynn Theatre. Look for lots of lin guine and *naturalmente, tiramisu*

Sunday, February 8. Sweet Tomatoes Restaurant, Burlington, 6 p.m. $50. Info, 652 4500.

family affair: Love is ... all in the timing. And whether the backdrop is 15th century Verona or 21st century Miami, the sad story of Romeo & Juliet begins. It's best to keep your family out of the fray. The Acting Company brings back the bard — just in time for Valentine's Day.

Wednesday, February 11. Flynn Theatre, Burlington, 7 p.m. $12-26. Info, 656-5806.

-P.R.

today list

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'VERGENNES AS A MARITIME COMMUNITY': The scuba-diving director of the Lake Champlain Maritime Museum speaks about underwater ship-wrecks and other local treasures. Sheldon Museum, Vergennes, 7 p.m. Free. Info, 388-2117

HONG KONG LECTURE: Professor Shiping Zheng talks about the Hong Kong "hand over" and its interpretation by three Chinese societies. Jost Conf ference Room, Old Mill, 12:10-1 p.m. Free. Info, 656-1205.

WOMEN'S VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION: Personal volunteers get an earfu to rape counseling. Women's Rape Crisis Center, Burlington, 6-8 p.m. Free Register: 864-0555.

LESMIGAR YOUTH 'ZINE MEET ING: Lesbian bisexual, gay, transgen-dered and "questioning" folks under age 23 gather monthly to publish a 'zine. Burlington. 7 p.m. Free. Info: 800-452-2428

BATTERED WOMEN'S SUPPORT GROUP: Women Helping Battered Women facilitates a group in Burlington. 6:30-8 p.m. Info: 658-1596.

TREE CARE MEETING: Ice is nice, but not when it shovers so many trees Burlington's absent and tree advocates discuss how to recover from the storm. Burlington High School Auditorium, 7 p.m. Free. Info: 862-8245

THURSDAY 5

film

'TEENAGERS': The award-winning Russian film is based on a true story about a correctional institution for delin quent youths. Loew Auditorium, Hood Museum of Art, Dartmouth College, Hanover, N.H., 7 p.m. $6. Info, 603-646-2422.

art

LIFE DRAWING: Live models give artists an opportunity to work from the real thing. Burlington College, 6:30-9 p.m. $6. Info: 862-2898.

words

DANIEL HECHT READING: See February 4. Barnes & Noble Bookstore, S. Burlington. 3 p.m. Free. Info, 864-8001

SUSTAINING JOY: Learn from the exercises on this personal "playbook" — the culmination of extensive training in healing, channeling and the visual arts. Barnes & Noble Bookstore, S. Burlington. 1 p.m. Free. Info: 864-8001

POETRY READING: Mosey Rural Poets Troy Dawdson and Amy Lashley read from their works at the Book Rack, Winooski. 7:30 p.m. Free. Info, 864-4226.

LAZY WRITERS FORUM: Share your

continued on next page

writing in program in a supportive workshop environment. Kellogg-Hubbard Library, Montpelier, 6:30 p.m. Free. Info, 223-3724

kids

PARENTS ANONYMOUS: See February 4.
GYM & CRAFT TIME: Homeschooling families get social at the Burlington Boys & Girls Club. 9:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. Free. Info, 654-7560
'WHAT IS THE MOON MADE OF? The featured book, by Shelagh Levey Oppenheim, goes way beyond green cheese. Barnes & Noble Bookstore, S. Burlington. 3 p.m. Free. Info 864-8001

sport

SKI INN: Skiers of all abilities explore the natural woods around Highland Lodge, Greensboro. 9-45 a.m. Free. Info, 533-2647

etc

LEADERSHIP SENEFIT SOCIAL: Leadership Champlain educates small business owners on issues of the day. Raise money for scholarships at the Magic Hat Brewery, Burlington, 5-7 p.m. $15. Reservations, 863-3489
INVENTING A WINTER WATERFRONT: Can the Burlington Waterfront become an all-season economic? Winterizing is the topic of discussion at Burlington City Hall. 5-45 p.m. Free, including pizza. Register: 865-7178
ADOPTION ALLIANCE MEETING: All members of adoption circle are welcome at this search and support group meeting. Shelburne Methodist Church. 6:30 p.m. Free. Info, 985-2464.

FRIDAY 6

music

LANE SERIES: The Bertramo String Quartet, made up of four faculty members of the New England Conservatory, plays chamber music by Haydn, Schuller and Beethoven. UVM Recital Hall, Burlington, 8 p.m. $15. Info 656-4455.
THE MIGHTY CLOUDS OF JOY: The first gospel group to perform so "Soul Train" mashes out with Grammy Award-winning musical ministry. Barre Opera House, 8 p.m. $14-20. Info, 476-8188
DARTMOUTH GLEE CLUB: Louis Burke directs the student ensemble in a fully-staged production of *The Gondoliers*. Spaulding Auditorium, Hopkins Center, Dartmouth College, Hanover, N.H., 8 p.m. $12.50. Info, 603-646-2422.

dance

FREE SPIRIT DANCE: Movers and shakers take advantage of an evening of unstructured dance and community. Chace Mill, Burlington. 8 p.m. $5 Info, 660-4305.

drama

FIRES IN THE MIRROR: In 1991 a tragic incident in Brooklyn set off a conflict between Hasidic Jews and African-Americans. This two-woman production — a series of monologues written by Anna Deavere Smith — holds "up a mirror in a community as war with itself." See "in do list." this issue. Flynn Theatre, Burlington. 8 p.m. $12-22.50. Info, 863-5966. A talk at 6:30 p.m. prior the play in historical context.

film

THE PIANO LESSON: Playwright August Wilson renovates quantum after this novel adaptation of his Pulitzer Prize-winning tale. Lane Auditorium, Hood Museum of Art, Dartmouth College, Hanover, N.H. 7:30 p.m. Free. Info, 603-646-2422.

art

GALLERY WALK: A capital stroll takes in art on display in local businesses. Get a map at Above Thyme Cafe, Montpelier, 5-7 p.m. Free. Info 223-4220
ART LECTURE: Painter John Moore talks about his work in the Lemuie Hall Vermont Studio Center Johnson. 8 p.m. Free. Register 635-2727

words

Pagan roots: Pagan roots from his new novel about "real people struggling to survive in a hard land." Book Rack, Winooski, 7:30 p.m. Free. Info 655-0231

kids

'ROCK FOR CHILDCARE': Rock a raise money to integrate child care professionals with a family run art featuring Lynne Robbins, Saxophonists and Relhop. Wheeler School, Burlington, 6-8 p.m. $3 for folks over 12. Info, 860-4573.
RECREATION PROGRAM: Kids grades six through eight keep in to play games like capture the flag, ping-pong and floor hockey. Hunt Middle School Burlington, 7:30-9:30 p.m. Free. Info, 864-8123.
STORY HOUR: Toddlers listen to stories at the Milton Public Library, 10:30 a.m. Free. Info, 893-4644

sport

OPEN FENCING. Make your point for fitness. Memorial Auditorium Annex, Burlington, 6:30-9 p.m. $3 Info 865 1763

etc

GENDER ROLES IN YOUTH TALK. A doctoral student in psychology speaks on gender role socialization in Indian gay Mormon and quasi-parenting youth. 201 McAuley Hall Trinity College, Burlington 9-11 a.m. Free Info 658-0337 ext 297
'ABRAHAM LINCOLN: THE STORYTELLER' Lincoln lived in more rapt sensational speeches with yarns that often turned into political parables. Gary Moore tells a few at Greater Brook Middle School, Duxbury, 7:30 p.m. Free. Info, 244-6648.
SONORAN DESERT SPRING'. Tired of winter? Rick Paradie shows slides of spring in Arizona. Heath Botanic Nature Center, Montpelier, 7 p.m. $6. Register, 229-6206
INSPIRING CREATIVITY IN YOUR BUSINESS. Vermont Businesses for Social Responsibility hosts a lecture delivered by a specialist in eco-friendly landscape design. Mt. Cushman Dodge, Stowe, 5-7 p.m. $10. Register, 862-8347
'WHERE THE WILD THINGS. Bring stowaways and a small tube or mounting tape to an outdoor search for animal tracks and other signs of wildlife. Room 129 Marsh Life Science Building, UVM, Burlington 1 p.m. 1-4.30 p.m. Info, 656-0423.

[illegible] to play or skate, or be part of the "Friday night at the Improv" audience. Westford Library, 7:30-9:30 p.m. Free. Info, 879-6100
FIBROMYALGIA SUPPORT GROUP. People suffering from the stress-induced musculoskeletal disorder meet weekly at the Peoples Health & Wellness Clinic, Barre, 7 p.m. Free. Info, 223-2952.
BATTERED WOMEN'S SUPPORT GROUP. Women Helping Battered Women facilitates a group in Burlington. 9:30-11 a.m. Free. Info, 658-1996.
LESBIGAYR YOUTH SUPPORT MEETING: Lesbian, bisexual, gay, transgendered and "questioning" folks under 23 are welcome at Outright Vermont, Burlington. 7 p.m. Free. Info, 800-452-2428.

SATURDAY 7

music

DARTMOUTH GLEE CLUB: See February 6.
ONION RIVER CHORUS: Hear the Vermont premiere of three polychoral sacred masterpieces by early baroque Austrian composer Heinrich Biber. Bethany Church, Montpelier, 8 p.m. $8. Info 426-3218
CABIN FEVER MUSIC SERIES: Acoustic artist Lucy Kaplansky shares a bill with Sonny Rocha — without her sisters. Briggs Opera House, White River Junction. 8:30 p.m. $14. Info, 295 5432.

dance

WALTZ NIGHT: Dance to silent auctions and Danube-style dancing are part of the Vermont Symphony Orchestra annual black-tie fundraiser. See "in do list," this issue. Sheraton Hotel S. Burlington. 6:30 p.m. $75-125. Info, 890 VSO-9295
SWING DANCE. Allison Mann and Swingset keep you moving with waltz, fox trot and Latin dance numbers. Unitarian Church, Montpelier. 8 p.m. $6. A lesson at 7 p.m. costs $4. Info 223-4712.
CONTRA DANCE: Mary Dee Romers calls for David Carpenter and Amy Cann. Capitol City Grange Montpelier. 8 p.m. $6. Info, 426-3734

film

'BEST OF BANFF. Sought fresh Banff the ultimate snowball adventure offers rock ice and mountaineering film footage from around the world. See "in do list," this issue. Billings Theatre, UVM, Burlington. 4, 6:30 & 9 p.m. $7. Register, 658-3313.
'GUANTANAMERA: This "cool movie" follows a funeral procession to Havana. Lane Auditorium, Hood Museum of Art, Dartmouth College, Hanover, N.H., 7 & 9 p.m. $6. Info, 603-646-2422.

kids

RECREATION PROGRAM: See February 6. Edmunds Middle School, 7-9 p.m.
MEET CLIFFORD: Kids get acquainted with this autism protagonist in the "Clifford" book series. It's the next best thing to meeting Norman Bridwell. Waldenbooks, Burlington 5-4 p.m. Free. Info, 658-6019
FAMILY SING-A-LONG: Lynn Robbins leads the musical fun at the Fletcher Free Library, Burlington 11-11.45 a.m. Free. Info 652-7080

sport

SNOWSHOE NATURE WALK. Learn how plants and animals adapt to winter in the northern forest. Highland Lodge, Greensboro. 2 p.m. Donations. Register, 533-2647
BOLTON NOTCH SNOWSHOE: The Green Mountain Club leads a snowy walk from Bolton Notch Road to Buchanan Lodge and back. Meet in Montpelier High School Parking Lot, 9 a.m. Donations. Info, 223-7035

etc

STORM IMPACT TALK. The annual record of the Proctor Maple Research Center discusses the impact of this ice storm on the sugaring industry. See "in do list," this issue. Lake Champlain Basin Science Center Burlington. 1 p.m. $2. Info 864 1848
MAD RIVER VALLEY WINTER CARNIVAL. Cavalcade, snow tubbing and a winter canoe challenge at the new best thing to the Winter Olympics. Waitsfield and Warren, 6:30 a.m.–midnight. $10. Info 800-828-4748
OWL PROGRAM: Learn about the biology and behavior of these secretive night creatures. Green Mountain Audubon Nature Center Huntington 7 p.m. $12. Register, 434-3068
BENEFIT BENEFIT: Help the Adult TO Students keep this not in the future at a lasagna dinner with dancing to Jewish jazz. Montpelier High School Cafeteria, 6-9 p.m. $1. Reservations, 229-5118
CROSSROADS FUNDRAISER. A gourmet dinner, live jazz and a free "evening out" auction support arts programming in Rutland County. Rutland

Good (sound) advice, p. 8

it's sort of vague — 'this is melancholy or 'this is very happy' but what's it about?"

Hecht studied fiction writing in one of the country's most prestigious master's of fine arts programs at the University of Iowa. The school awarded him a $10 000 fellowship for his writing. But he didn't like the workshops.

"It's very bad to submit creative stuff to committee review," he said. "You've got to be able to take risks."

Returning to Montpelier in 1992, he worked in admissions at Woodbury College and later as alumni and development director at Vermont College. He didn't write for a year and a half. "I had to get rid of the critical voices in my head."

Skull Session was written over a three-year period, mostly at night and on weekends. Only since the advance from Viking has Hecht been able to write full time. He relies on Stella to run the house and protect his quiet, and Milo goes to day care a few days a week.

Hecht works on his second novel each morning, typing on a laptop computer in an upstairs study for three or four hours. The afternoons are spent on interviews and other publicity work, or meetings with his two part-time research assistants. He devotes his evening to reading about genetics, neurology, toxicology and evolutionary psychology, part of the research for the new book, tentatively titled *The Babel Effect*.

The novel, due to the publishers in October, is about ethnic identity, social disintegration and genocide — "very conceptually heavy," he admits. But he hopes he's got another cast of characters and story line that will keep the readers with him.

It's a delicate balance he tries to strike, keeping the thriller fans interest while also appealing to intellectual readers more accustomed to novels of ideas. He knows some readers expecting bloodless fiction will find *Skull Session* too shocking and gory. But "there will be as many people who read it looking for shocking and gory stuff and being very disappointed.

"I think of this book as an entertainment," he says. "But I think of it as a *refined* entertainment." ⓥ

Daniel Hecht will read from his new book at Bear Pond Books in Montpelier this Wednesday, February 4, at 7 p.m., at Barnes & Noble in S. Burlington Thursday, February 5, at 3 p.m., at Chapman & Bum Burlington February 19, at 7 p.m. and at the Book Rack, Winooski March 6, at 7 p.m.

By Kevin J. Kelley

As Vermont celebrates Black History Month, black and white residents alike can take justified pride in their state's record of antislavery activism. But that record has been romanticized to some extent, and it contains a few embarrassing blemishes as well as claims of heroism that cannot be substantiated.

These are the overall findings of a recent evaluation of slavery movement," Zirblis comments. He cites the current case of *Amistad*, Steven Spielberg's Hollywood saga about a trial involving slave ship mutineers, in which white attorneys are presented as central figures.

"Friends of Freedom," by contrast, highlights the story of Loudon Langley an African-American farmer in Hinesburg. Langley wrote for an abolitionist newspaper published in Vermont and is known to have

and two of his brothers left Vermont to join the Union Army in hopes of helping to finish off the Confederacy. The Langleys had to enlist in a Massachusetts-based regiment, however because Vermont's own detachments were not racially integrated.

"I don't mean to denigrate Vermont's contribution to the military effort during the Civil War," Zirblis explains. "It needs to be acknowledged, though, that racism is woven

THE RIGHT TRACK?

Burlington is scattered with homes alleged to be "stations" on the underground railroad.

Underground Railroad activities in Vermont written by Montpelier-based historian Ray Zirblis and published by the state government under the title, "Friends of Freedom."

Zirblis' year-long research project, funded by a $10,000 grant from the State Legislature, is linked to the growing national effort to document and honor the deeds of Americans who took direct action to end slavery. The National Parks Service is planning to develop sites throughout the Northeast identified as "stations" along the route of the Underground Railroad. It was via this secret network of safe houses that fugitives were transported from slavery in the South to freedom in New England and Canada.

Zirblis' 100-page study focuses on the role of the fugitives themselves and of freed blacks earning Vermont a reputation as a hotbed of antislavery activity.

"There's a tendency to see the fugitives as somewhat passive figures helped by white Vermonters who took big risks," Zirblis notes. Such a depiction on the part of earlier historians "feeds into the way this country looks at black history in general," he adds. Zirblis himself is an architectural historian educator who has worked as an instructor at the Vermont Historical Society.

The emphasis is gradually changing, but "whites are still often portrayed as the main actors in accounts of the anti-

harbored at least one fugitive slave at his home on Lincoln Hill. That part of Hinesburg was also referred to as "Nigger Hill" by some 19th-century newspapers, Zirblis points out.

Galvanized by Abraham Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation in 1863, Langley

> "Underground Railroad activists in Vermont did exemplify moral courage and an admirable commitment to racial equality. I don't believe, though, that they necessarily risked experiencing violence or imprisonment."
>
> – Ray Zirblis, historian

throughout our society."

Vermont's physical distance from the actual fighting — and the relatively small number of African-Americans living in the state — did not prevent slavery-related issues from rolling its communities and altering individual lives. Many Burlingtonians, for example, were passionately partisan, on several different sides of the racial controversy.

One of the key debates among black people during the antebellum era — whether to stay in the United States and fight for abolition, or to take part in the "colonization" of free enclaves in Africa and the Caribbean — was played out right on Church Street, Zirblis reports. He tells of the Holly brothers James and Joseph, who owned a boot shop there.

Joseph Holly took an abolitionist stance, and eventually moved to Rochester, New York, where Frederick Douglass was publishing *The North Star*, a leading voice of the antislavery movement. James Holly favored the colonization approach. He too left Burlington, moving first to a predominantly black village in Ontario and later helping lead an expedition to Haiti by some 100 African American colonizers.

"The family split over the issue of abolition versus colonization," Zirblis remarks. "It profoundly affected these shop owners on a street we all know today."

In calling attention to the deeds of black Vermonters,

Zirblis says it is not his intention to diminish the efforts of whites who worked on the Underground Railroad and took part in other emancipation campaigns. Joshua Young, for one, is duly counted among the courageous clergymen, Quakers and members of anti-Masonic societies who spoke out and acted against slavery.

Young, the minister of the Unitarian Church at the head of Church Street, fed and shelered fugitive slaves in his

across no firm proof that they were used as hide-aways for fugitives seeking to elude bounty hunters.

"There wasn't anything that couldn't be explained as a smoke room or a pantry," Zirblis says. "What I didn't find was any physical evidence, like graffiti carved on a beam, indicating that fugitives stayed in these places — not that such evidence would be expected to survive from what was after all, a secret operation."

fugitives as Boardman's son claims. "But I'm inclined to believe that where there's a lot of smoke, you'll find some fire," he says. "Maybe Boardman didn't hide 600 people. But he probably had at least a few."

At the same time, Zirblis finds compelling reason to doubt the credentials of other Vermonters who are said to have worked as "conductors" on the Underground Railroad. One of them is Steven Jacob, a

Was the Underground Railroad in Vermont a ticket to freedom? A local historian sets the record straight

PHOTOS: MATTHEW THORSEN

But physical evidence of the fugitive activity is not so apparent.

home at 98 South Willard Street. He also delivered the eulogy at John Brown's funeral. Young had traveled to the service simply to pay his respects to a man who was generally regarded — even within the abolitionist movement — as a crazed militant. But because no other clergy were present, Zirblis recounts, Young was asked to officiate at the burial. And for daring to mourn Brown publicly, Young was run out of Burlington by enraged residents.

This was not a unique instance of reactionary behavior by Burlingtonians in regard to the slavery issue. Zirblis also points to the case of John Hopkins, the city's Episcopal bishop, who had lived in the same home — at 272 Church Street — that was later owned by Lucius Bigelow, a leading local abolitionist. Hopkins gained notoriety as the author of three books defending slavery, one of them purporting to demonstrate biblical justification for the practice.

While Zirblis was able to document several such stories recorded by earlier historians, he could not find conclusive evidence in support of other tales of high principles and brave actions. It was particularly difficult to substantiate claims that certain Vermont homes served as hiding places for fugitive slaves. Trapdoors, secret rooms and concealed passageways are indeed found in many of the houses still standing, but Zirblis came

Zirblis' training as a historian causes him to look with some skepticism at the accounts of valorous conduct attributed to Steven Boardman, a Norwich landowner. Boardman's son relates in the family genealogy that his father trumped a posse of slave hunters who came to the Norwich home when a fugitive was in fact concealed there. The elder Boardman reportedly smeared camphor on the hidden man's feet in order to prevent his discovery by the posse's bloodhounds.

Where had these hunters and dogs come from, Zirblis wonders. "From North Carolina or Kentucky all the way to Vermont?"

There are few authenticated instances of such pursuers reaching Vermont, Zirblis notes. "And there's at least anecdotal evidence that fugitives were pretty safe once they got to Vermont." Escaped slaves stayed for extended periods at the Rokeby homestead in Ferrisburgh and other farms in the state, where they worked as hired hands during haying season. The Fugitive Slave Act of 1850, which made it illegal to assist blacks escaping bondage, does not appear to have been enforced in Vermont, Zirblis says.

Still, the alleged heroics of white Vermonters such as Boardman should not be entirely discounted, Zirblis adds. That Norwich home may or may not have served over several years as a haven for 600

Windsor attorney who is listed in a earlier roster of those Vermonters who harbored fugitives.

It is not definitively known whether Jacob did play such a role, but town records show that in 1802 he refused to pay for the care of a then-elderly black woman, Dinah, who had worked at his servant for many years.

Zirblis argues that the Underground Railroad was "a small but dramatic and important part" of Vermont's overall involvement in the fight against slavery. He notes that many residents who never worked on the Railroad did speak out loudly in support of African-American emancipation. Vermont was the first state in the Union to outlaw slavery in its Constitution, and the Green Mountain congressional delegation was known for its solid commitment to the cause of black freedom.

"Underground Railroad activists in Vermont did exemplify moral courage and an admirable commitment to racial equality," Zirblis adds. "I don't believe though that they necessarily risked experiencing violence or imprisonment.

"What they did risk was being thought fools or radicals by many of their neighbors. They were willing to trouble the still waters of their communities, and that's a brave act in any small town." ⓪

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something borrowed

This accomplished young quartet—Italian, American, Chinese and Korean—takes on something old, Haydn and Beethoven, and something new, modern composer Gunther Schuller at the Lane Series this Friday.

Country Club. 6 p.m. $40. Raxo various. 775-5415.

SUNDAY 8

music

ONION RIVER CHORUS: See February 7. St. Paul's Cathedral Burlington. 2 p.m.

'NUTCRACKERS' TRUMPETS & OTHER TOYS The 50-member Vermont Philharmonic Orchestra performs the *Nutcracker Suite*, *Toy Symphony* and *Minuet*. Barre Opera House, 6 p.m. $12. Info, 223-4047.

PETE & KAREN SUTHERLAND: "Lyrical fiddling, traditional balladry, potent songwriting and pomadore singing" are promised at a brass concert in Panton. 5-7 p.m. $5. Reservations, 475-2201.

drama

AUDITIONS. The Fairfax Community Theatre Company is seeking actors for a series of one-act plays to be performed this spring. Scene your stuff in the Fletcher Union Meeting House. 2 p.m. Free. Info, 849-2120.

film

AFRICAN-AMERICAN ART FILMS: A selection of films highlights the achievements of contemporary African-American artists. Fleming Museum, UVM. Burlington, 2-5 p.m. $3. Info, 656-0750.

'RASHOMON': A double crime, seen from four points of view, makes this Japanese film by Akira Kurosawa delightfully enigmatic. Rhombus Gallery. 186 College St. Burlington, 7 p.m. Donations. Info, 652-1103.

HOPE & GLORY This British film takes the point of view of a nine-year-old boy who enjoys the Blitz for its fireworks. Spaulding Auditorium. Hopkins Center, Dartmouth College, Hanover, N.H. 6:45 & 9:15 p.m. $6. Info, 603-646-2422.

words

'MERCY ROAD See February 6. Barnes & Noble Bookstore, S. Burlington. 4 p.m. Info, 864-8001.

CAROL MASO TALK: The novelist discusses her work in the Lecture Hall, Vermont Studio Center. Johnson. 8 p.m. Free. Register, 635-2727.

WEDDING GUIDE READING Jeanne Palmisano signs and answers questions about her comprehensive guide of Vermont nuptial services, sites and vendors. See "to do list," this issue. Barnes & Noble Bookstore, 7 p.m. Free. Info, 864-8001.

kids

'DEEP WINTER TALES' Odds Bodkin entertains families with Robert Williams-style storytelling at the Montshire Museum of Science, Norwich. 2 p.m. $10. Info, 649-2200.

sport

CROSS-COUNTRY SKI The Green Mountains Club holds a snowy ski foray of various lengths and abilities at the Highland Lodge in Greensboro. Meet at the Montpelier High School Parking Lot. 10:30 a.m. $18. Info, 476-8341.

etc

MAD RIVER VALLEY WINTER CARNIVAL. See February 7. Today catch a snowmobile race at 10 a.m. and music and dance after 3 p.m.

UNA FESTA ITALIANA DINNER: Wine, *hors d'oeuvres* and a silent auction are followed by a live-course Italian banquet benefit for the Flynn Theatre. See "to do list," this issue. Sweet Tomatoes Trattoria, Burlington, 6 p.m. $50. Reservations, 863-5966.

HYPOTHERMIA TALK. Did you find yourself "winter camping" mid-wintertly during the ice storm? Learn warmth-conserving techniques from a back-country sports educator. Lake Champlain Raxo Science Center, Burlington. 1 p.m. $2. Info, 864-1848.

HEALING IN COMMON DAY Practitioners give talks on radical healing, sacred space, Ayurveda, Reiki and herbs. Healing in Common. 2031 Shelburne Rd. Shelburne. 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Free. Info, 985-8961.

'MORE THAN TWO WORDS' "Silent" Calvin Coolidge gets the Jim Cooke treatment — a performance of wit, insight and lots of New Deal history. Heaton Woods, Montpelier. 2 p.m. Free. Info, 229-1857.

BIRDING AT VICTORY BOG Friends of feathered friends flock to the Northeast Kingdom with the Vermont Institute of Natural Science. Woodstock. 9 a.m. $25. Register, 457-2779.

PAGAN CIRCLE. Celebrate Candlemas and the full moon with food for a feast, an instrument for music and a cushion to sit on. Unitarian Church. Burlington. 6 p.m. Donation. Info, 884-9689.

MONDAY 9

music

OPEN REHEARSAL. Women compare notes at a harmonious rehearsal of the Champlain Echoes. S. Burlington. 7 p.m. Free. Info, 864-6703.

drama

AUDITIONS: See February 8. Room 259, BFA Fairfax. 7 p.m.

film

'FIVE MINUTES IN HEAVEN' The Gay and Lesbian Literature and Film Club discusses Lisa Alther's novel about an epic search for intimacy. Rhombus Gallery. 186 College St., Burlington. 7:30 p.m. $2-6. Info, 652-1103.

kids

STORY HOUR: Kids between three and five listen to stories at the S. Burlington Library. 11 a.m. Free. Info, 652-7080.

etc

LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST Business folks discuss the implications of education reform with Speaker of the House Michael Obuchowski and

SAY CHEESE

Continued from page 17

porter braised lamb shank ($15.50). Pasta dishes — made with traditional pastas such as spaghetti and ziti, and homemade Asian noodles as well — range in price from $9 to $12. Appetizers looked tempting: fire-roasted calamari with Thai chile sauce ($5.75), warm spinach salad with grilled portobello mushrooms ($4.75), grilled sweet breads and wilted greens ($5). The menu changes monthly.

The wine list, to an uneducated but enthusiastic oenophile like myself, could be called "interesting," mostly because it seemed to avoid all the "usual suspects" (in other words, I had never heard of most of the selections). We enjoyed our Hogue Fumé Blanc, an Oregon white ($4.75 a glass, $19 a bottle) so much that we ordered a second. The list of beers also offered some unusual choices, including Otter Creek Stovepipe Porter — $3.25 on draft — and Red Hook Double Black Stout at $6 for a 24-ounce bottle.

The service was great: friendly, efficient and non-intrusive, though still casual and friendly. We felt cared for but not spied upon. Even being right under the speaker soon ceased to matter, for one thing, I liked the stuff they were playing — a lively mix of jazz and light reggae.

We never asked what was on the dessert menu, as we were too satiated. Instead, we finished our meal with some good decaf espresso. Matthew Tuckels later told me the desserts change nightly. Recent offerings included a raspberry key lime pie, a chocolate tiramisu and pumpkin cheesecake, at a round $5 a serving.

The bill for three people, excluding wine and tip, was $70. My friends, visiting from out of town, reported that they dined the following night at a more high-profile area restaurant and paid much more for a relatively inferior meal. ⓕ

Asiago, at 234 Mountain Road, Stowe, is open nightly except Tuesdays, from 5 p.m. Since reservations are not accepted, the owners [illegible] popular 7-8:30 p.m. time slot if you don't want to wait. It is the restaurant's policy not to issue separate checks, and to add an 18-percent gratuity to the bill for parties of five or more. Local checks, Mastercard and Visa are accepted. There is an alternate entrance for wheelchairs.

HARD 'COUREUR'

Marathon skiers head nord for the long haul

By David Healy

Just before dawn on Saturday, Donna Smyers will walk away from the glare of the bonfire near Gatineau, Quebec, and line up with the other "Runners of the Forest" to await the sound of a gunshot. No, this Vermonter isn't part of a cult intent on mass suicide. Instead, she's one of over 1500 participants scheduled to take part in a slightly masochistic cross country ski race known as the Canadian Ski Marathon.

For those that go the distance, the Marathon is a 100-mile test of skill and will in the Canadian wilderness between Gatineau near Ottawa, and the small town of Lachute, just west of Montréal. But as an untimed 10-stage event running over two full days, the goal for most participants is simply to survive the journey, not to bury fellow competitors.

"It's the longest two-day cross-country event in the world," explains Rick Hubbard, the organizer of a 68-person Vermont contingent headed for the CSM. "But it's not a race, it's more of a tour."

Initiated 32 years ago by the legendary Jackrabbit Johansen the first "tour" was a tribute to the trappers and traders a.k.a. Coureur de Bois, who used skis to carry goods and mail to Canada's snow laden interior. Today's Marathoners don't have to be as hardy as the messengers of yore: Well-placed rest stops and an innovative "Maxi-Team" format allows citizen skiers to cover as many — or as few — stages as they choose.

Nevertheless, each year a couple hundred crazy Canadians and a handful of intrepid Americans attempt the whole route in pursuit of a coveted Coureur de Bois medal. Much like a Canadian cold front, prizes are based on a brutality index: a bronze medal for merely skiing the course, a silver to those who also lug a 25-pound pack on their back, and a gold for those who add winter camping to the challenge, and live out of their packs.

Last year as daytime temperatures plunged more than 20 degrees below zero, Smyers logged eight stages averaging a brisk five miles per hour as part of Vermont's "Green Mountain Express" Maxi-Team. This weekend as the Olympic torch is lit in Nagano, Japan, the former Dartmouth gymnast will be among those going for a Coureur bronze in Canada.

Amazingly before last year's Maxi Team participation, Smyers had never even competed in a ski race. However, she clearly has the mettle for an outing. Hubbard characterizes as "the Iron event of recreational things." This fall the 40-year-old physical therapist spent nearly 11 hours swimming, biking and running her way to first place in the masters division of the Ironman Triathlon in Hawaii.

But don't expect to see Vermont's leading Ironwoman camping on the Quebec tundra anytime soon. "I can't figure out anything that would make me want to do the gold," she chuckles,

Continued on page 26

> Much like a Canadian cold front, prizes for the Canadian Ski Marathon are based on a brutality index: a bronze medal for merely skiing the course, a silver to those who also lug a 25-pound pack on their back, and a gold for all who use what they carry to spend the night in the woods.

HARD 'COUEUR'

Continued from page 25

skiing that cross-country ski-ing is excellent cross-training for her primary sport, and that the CSM provides "a fun excuse to ski all day."

For the bulk of the Vermont participants at the Marathon, camaraderie and hot tubs seem to take precedence over rivalry and hot wax. Last year for instance, Smyers skied the equivalent of Burlington to Montpelier and back. But equally important, she argues, is the friendship she developed while skiing with two Central Vermont Hospital co-workers whom she had never even met before.

> For the bulk of the Vermont participants at the Marathon camaraderie and hot tubs seem to take precedence over rivalry and hot wax

And unlike skiing a loop between the Queen City and the capital, part of the rhythm and pleasure of the CSM tour is that you ski toward a destination. For most people, the day-one destination is the hot tub of the posh Chateau Montebello. This year, however, with the effects of the ice storm rendering portions of the backcountry route impassable, the course has been modified to double back on itself. But longtime Marathoners needn't have sweated their trade. The overstuffed log Chateau is still the race midpoint, bathhouse and cozy crash pad for many of the racers.

At the Marathon as in life, some are capable of unwilling to "pay" for a night at the Chateau; instead, they make their temporary home "on the other side of the ski tracks," roughing it on thin sleeping pads strewn on the floor of a high school gym. Although not exactly the lap of luxury, it beats the bonfire and bale of hay provided gold-medal Coueurs crashing outside.

"It's a great social leveler," Hubbard says of the event, despite the difference in accommodations. "Everyone is tied together by the skiing." Hubbard, a Stowe-area lawyer by profession but skier by avocation, managed to double Vermont's CSM participation over last year. And he's brought together more than endorphin addicts like Smyers. A range of folks — from Green Mountain Power executive Louise McCarren to political junkies like State Senator Elizabeth Ready — are members of the Green Mountain Express team.

Vermont might have some high powered participants, [illegible] "Snow Geese" our racer's ski train to finish second-place overall. Perhaps this year, while Smyers stay in around the bonfire at 5:30 a.m. and the early risers clatter around the school gym getting ready for the day, those of us resting from home shall be sure to roll over in our warm beds and whisper, *bon chance, mes amis.* ⓥ

LIFE IN HELL

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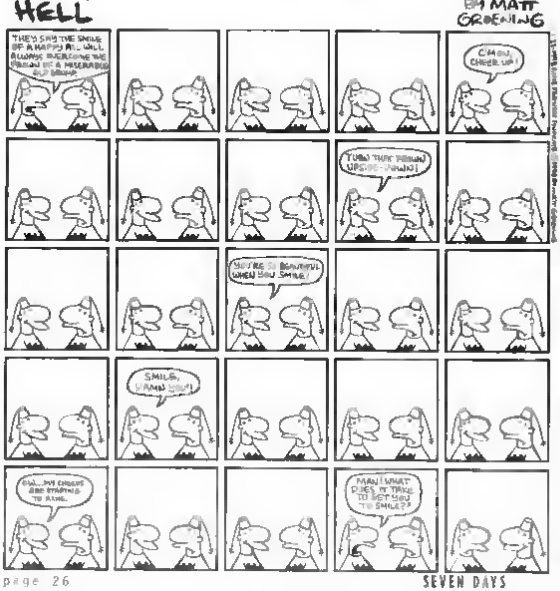

THE HOYTS CINEMAS FILM QUIZ

FEATURE CREATURES

Above are four handsome devils from four well-known films, individuals who would have no trouble standing out in a crowd even if the movies they appeared in were hardly outstanding. Your job, as you've no doubt surmised, is to scare up the titles of those four timeless classics ..

1 _____ 2 _____

3 _____ 4 _____

[illegible] Clooney to watch 'The Good, The Bad & The Ugly' [illegible]

LAST WEEK'S WINNERS

DICK VIOLET
MARK LANDRY
PETE DUSSAULT
URSULA ALBERTI
RONNIE ROUNDS
MELISSA HYNES
BRIAN MELDRUM
RICK MILLER
JOHN GARNER
PHIL DRAKE

LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS:

1. PLAYING GOD
2. GOOD BURGER
3. THE PILLOW BOOK
4. PICTURE PERFECT

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talkings pictures

BY RICK KISONAK

REVIEWS

AFTERGLOW***** [illegible] Director Alan Rudolph [illegible] Afterglow [illegible] longtime collaborator Robert Altman, the film is set in Montreal and tells the tale of two married couples in modern marriages whose dying/existing affairs intersect in the bar of the Ritz Carlton Hotel.

Julie Christie has already won several film festival Best Actress awards for her performance as an ex-B-movie starlet haunted by memories contributing to the dissolution of her family. Nick Nolte does some of his best work in years as her husband, a philandering handyman. In the course of the story we learn that the couple moved to Montreal eight years earlier in pursuit of their daughter who had run away from home following a traumatic incident. The two have pretty much retreated from one another emotionally and play a sad game in which Nolte makes a habit of casual affairs and Christie makes like she couldn't care less.

SCENES FROM A MARRIAGE *Nolte and Christie make one another pay for past mistakes in the mesmerizing new film from Alan Rudolph*

On the other side of town, upperclass newlywed Lara Flynn Boyle wants a baby while scoundrel hubby Jimmy Lee Miller is acting like one. Miller, who was so moving as "Sick Boy" in *Trainspotting*, inhabits an even sorier character here — a sort of yuppie robot whose inclinations seem limited to corporate climb-ing and homosexual panic.

Boyle decides to pursue her dream of motherhood anyway and hires Nolte to run a little-used study into a surrogacy. The two embark on a sexually fiery affair. Christie feeds her need for self flagellation by following them to a chic wavering hole and just when you're certain you know what's going to happen next, something utterly unexpected takes place instead.

Mining themes of loss and regeneration with razor-sharp insight and midnight-black humor, Rudolph (*Choose Me, Mrs. Parker and the Vicious Circle*) here gives us his most fully realized film to date — a picture of exemplary extremely rare poetry and power.

Titanic believe me, isn't going anywhere any time soon, whereas a movie like *Afterglow* won't hang around long if audiences don't show up for this all-important opening week. My advice: Book your passage on the blockbuster some other time. That isn't the boat to miss.

PREVIEWS

BLUES BROTHERS 2000 Talk about the blues — I feel sad just thinking about this attempt on the part of a very middle-aged Dan Aykroyd to breathe new life into his film career by squeezing back into his old dark suit and glasses. And wouldn't you think John Goodman would have more important things to do?

WASHINGTON SQUARE Polish director Agnieszka (*Europa, Europa*) Holland adapts the 1881 Henry James classic about an unmarried New York woman manipulated alternately by her aged father and a fortune-seeking suitor. Jennifer Jason Leigh is joined by Albert Finney, Ben Chaplin and Judith Ivey.

KUNDUN Mulan (E.T.) Matthew wrote and Martin Scorsese directed, this year's second look at the saga of the 14th Dalai Lama, this time the story of the religious leader's life is told without the help of Brad Pitt and only through 1959, the year he fled Tibet for India.

THE REPLACEMENT KILLERS Hong Kong action superstar Chow Yun Fat joins forces with Mira Sorvino for this thriller about a Chinese assassin trapped in the U.S. with a contract he doesn't want to fulfill. Antoine Fuqua directs.

SHORTS

PHANTOMS*½ Peter O'Toole stars in director Joe Chappelle's adaptation of the best selling Dean Koontz thriller about a deadly supernatural force lurking beneath a small Colorado town's ultra-chill and gee-whizzingly awful. With Ben Affleck and Lisa Schrader.

DESPERATE MEASURES (RR) Michael Keaton plays a homicidal maniac serving a life stretch in a maximum security prison.

EVE'S BAYOU (RR) Samuel (*Jackie Brown*) Jackson produced and co-stars in writer-director Kasi Lemmons' new film about a 10-year-old Louisiana girl coming to grips with troublesome family secrets. James Smollett stars.

GREAT EXPECTATIONS (NR) Mira Robinson herself (Anne Bancroft) plays Miss Havisham in Alfonso Cuaron's MTV meets-Masterpiece Theater update of the Dickens classic, reworked for a modern setting. Ethan Hawke and Gwyneth Paltrow as the aged's star-crossed lovers are joined by Hank Azaria and Robert De Niro.

GOOD WILL HUNTING*** Gus Van Sant directs the story of yet another *Michael/Powder*-style supergenius who has trouble fitting into society. Robin Williams plays the therapist who finally gets through to him.

HARD RAIN** In the digital tradition of *Volcano* and *Twister* comes the latest man vs. weather drama, the story of thieves who are interrupted to mid-heist by a flood. Christian Slater and Morgan Freeman star.

SPICE WORLD (RR) "Can they sing?" is the question everyone always seems to ask about the world's most popular female vocal group. Their feature film debut is sure to add "Can they act?" to the mystery surrounding their vacuous.

rating scale: ★ = [illegible] NR = not reviewed

SHOWTIMES

FILMS RUN FRIDAY, FEB. 6, THROUGH THURSDAY, FEB. 12

SILVER CINEMAS ETHAN ALLEN 4
North Avenue, Burlington, 863-6040.
Starship Troopers 1:05, 3:25, 7:45. Eve's Bayou 3:25, 9:55. Kiss the Girls 3:20, 9:50. Midnight in the Garden of Good & Evil 5:10, 8. Seven Years in Tibet 7, 9:30. Home Alone 3 1:15. Amistad 1:20, 3:10, 5. Tomorrow Never Dies 1:10, 5:30, 7:40. All shows Sat. & Sun. Evening shows daily.

CINEMA NINE
Shelburne Road, S. Burlington, 864-5610.
Blues Brothers 2000* 12:40, 3:45, 7:10, 9:50. Deep Rising 1, 3:55, 6:45, 9:35. Desperate Measures 12:05, 2:15, 4:30, 7:20, 9:45. Spice World 12:10, 2:25, 4:40, 7:15, 9:25. Hard Rain 9:55. Titanic *Fri. only* 12, 3, 4, 7, 8, 10:45. *Sat. only* 10:30, 11, 2:30, 3, 6:30, 7, 10:30, 10:45. *Sun. only* 11, 12, 3, 4, 7, 8. *Mon. Thurs.* 12, 3, 4, 7, 8. Mouse Hunt 12, 2:20, 4:35, 7. Good Will Hunting 12:45, 3:50, 6:50, 9:40. All shows daily.

SHOWCASE CINEMAS 5 Williston Road, S. Burlington, 863-4494.
Replacement Killers* 12:50, 4, 7:10, 9:35. Kundun* 12:40, 3:40, 6:40, 9:20. Blues Brothers 2000* 12:30, 3:30, 6:50, 9:30. Spice World 1, 4:10, 7:05, 9:15. Afterglow 1:10, 3:50, 7, 9:25. All shows Sat. - Sun. Evening shows daily.

NICKELODEON CINEMAS College Street, Burlington, 863-9515.
Titanic 11:30, 3:30, 7:40. Great Expectations 11:45, 12:20, 2:15, 2:50, 4:45, 6:40, 7:20, 9:10, 9:50. Wag the Dog 12:10, 2:30, 4:50, 9:20. Amistad 12, 3:10, 6:20, 9:30. Titanic 11:30, 3:30, 7:45. Good Will Hunting 12:45, 3:45, 7, 9:40. All shows daily.

THE SAVOY
Main Street, Montpelier, 229-0509.
Washington Square* 2 (Sat. Sun. only) 6:30, 8:45.

** New this week. Movie times subject to change. Please call the theater to confirm.*

"Mirror" copyright by Matthew Kolodziej

.art LISTINGS

ANNOUNCEMENT

Surely the most interactive gallery in Vermont: the Chaffee Center for the Visual Arts is holding a design contest for the invitation of the 1998 Annual Community Exhibition, entitled "Spinning." The design photograph or drawing should reflect the importance of wheels (no larger than 11" x 14"). Send by March 20 to CCVA, 16 S. Main St., Rutland, VT 05701. Info, call 775-0356.

OPENINGS

RITUALS OF PASSAGE a one-evening exhibition of experimental art by Kristin Humbargar. Water Street Gallery, Burlington. 655-0940. February 5, 7-9 p.m., performance at 8 p.m.

RUINS: HISTORY WITHOUT DATES paintings by Alexandra Borunda and Matthew Kolodziej. Dell Ansault Gallery, Burlington. 864-3661. Reception February 6, 6-8 p.m.

FACES paintings and sculpture by Mary Thompson. Airam, Fletcher Free Library, Burlington. 863-3403. Through February.

BEFORE THE THAW, handmade prints by Roy Newton. Red Onion Cafe, Burlington. 372-5386. Through March 22.

CHILDREN'S ART EXHIBIT from Burlington elementary schools. Metropolitan Gallery, Burlington City Hall. 865-7157. Reception February 6, 5 p.m.

LANDSCAPES drawings on paper by Elaine Parker. Phoenix Rising, Montpelier. 229-0522. Reception February 6, 5-7 p.m.

GOOSE NECKS AND ELEPHANT TALES still-life paintings by Kathy Black. Red Mill Gallery, Vermont Studio Center, Johnson. 635-2727. Reception February 6, 6:30-8 p.m. Show is up only through February 10.

SCENES OF SENSUOUSNESS photographs of nudes by Andrés Aquino. Moon Brook Gallery, Rutland. 767-9341. Reception February 6, 6-8 p.m.

BROKEN HEART SHOW eighth annual thematic group exhibit in mixed media. Daily Planet, Burlington. 864-7528. Reception February 8, 3-5 p.m.

LOUIS RANNIE LIONNI mixed media by the Burlington architect. Francis Colburn Gallery, University of Vermont, Burlington. 656-2014. Reception February 10, 5-7 p.m.

NUDE REACTION *Andrés Aquino is an experienced New York art, fashion and portrait photographer who moved to Rochester, Vermont, just last year, but he'd never experienced anything quite like this. His proposed exhibit of computer-enhanced and collaged nude photographs at the MoonBrook Gallery in Rutland was approved, then vetoed three days before its opening. The ensuing recriminations resulted in the resignation of the gallery's director and one board member, as well as a mini-tempest around Rutland about that unwelcome thing called censorship. Though the Artist Guild of West Rutland temporarily housed the show, a twist of circumstances has the full, well, body back at MoonBrook. Find out what all the fuss was about at the opening reception this Friday. Above, Aquino's "Meadow Curves."*

ONGOING

TRAVELING EXHIBIT of paintings by elders and disabled adults in the Northeast Kingdom and Quebec. Spotlight Gallery, Vermont Arts Council, Montpelier. 828-5422. Through February 27.

TEN WEBBER JURIED SHOW of the Northern Vermont Artists Association in mixed media. Barnes & Noble, S. Burlington. 878-1761. Through February.

RECENT PAINTINGS by Robert Waldo Brunelle Jr. and Richard Hoffman. Helen Day Art Center, Stowe. 253-8358. Through February.

FROM THE GREEN MOUNTAINS TO THE OCEAN acrylic paintings by Ian Kern. Finale, S. Burlington. 878-0176. Through February.

VERMONT ARTISTS OF THE U.S. features the work of 16 ceramicists. Vermont Clay Studio, Montpelier. 223-4220. Through February 27.

MATROBI HOUSE recent sculpture and collage by Brian O'Neill. Fletcher Free Library, Burlington. 863-3403. Through February.

HUSBAND AND WIFE the wood engravings of John A. Murphy and Cecil Buller. Musée des Beaux Arts, Montréal. 514-285-1600. Through April 19.

FISH OUT OF WATER sculptures by Terry Porter. Firehouse Gallery, Burlington. 865-7166. Through February 22.

WATERPOWER AND SETTLEMENT The Otter Creek Basin at Vergennes: an exhibit of artifacts and archival materials relating to Vermont's smallest city. The Sheldon Museum, Middlebury. 388-2117. Through March 20.

ROBERT HEARDEN: COLLAGES RECENT ACQUISITIONS CONTEMPORARY ART, featuring paintings, sculpture, drawings, prints and photographs, and **AMERICAN PAINTINGS** from the Dartmouth Collection 1910-1960, featuring artworks in a variety of 20th-century styles. Hood Museum of Art, Dartmouth College, Hanover, N.H., 603-646-2426. All through April 12.

A GRAPHIC ODYSSEY: ROBERT HEARDEN AS PRINTMAKER featuring works about the African American experience. Fleming Museum, Burlington. 656-0750. Through March 22.

THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS The Art of Children's Book Illustration, featuring the work of New England authors and artists. Helen Day Art Center, Stowe. 253-8358. Through April 4.

THIS SIX WERE NOW a six-person show in mixed media, with sounds by Flux. Exquisite Corpse Artspace, Burlington. 864-5040, ext. 121. Through February 27.

ENDURANCE an international exhibit of body performance and conceptual art from 38 artists who use the physical, mental and spiritual endurance of the body. Julian Scott Memorial Gallery, Johnson State College. 635-1469. Through March 15.

NANCY GRAVES: EXCAVATIONS IN PRINT, featuring large-scale prints by the internationally known artist. Middlebury College Museum of Art. 443-5007. Through February 8.

SIMPLE GIFTS new paintings by Kate Hartley and Suzan Riggsbee White. Birchgrove Sandcliffe Gallery, Shelburne. 985-3858. Through February 12.

PLEASE NOTE: Seven Days is unable to accommodate all of the displays in our readership area. Thus those listings must be restricted to exhibits in truly public viewing places. Art in business offices, lobbies and private residences or studios, with occasional exceptions, will not be accepted.

ART

SIX OF ONE

By Marc Awodey

Designer Harry Bertoia once lovingly described his painting process by writing, "I used to make paintings on the most transparent paper I could find — paint just a shape here, leave a lot of space around it, and then another shape and color there. Then I would stretch the paper on a frame, and hang it up against the light." Bertoia was seeking lucidity within color and he was interested in how transparent fields interact with pure hues.

This emphasis on exploration, and sensitivity for materials, appears to be distinctly absent in the fine-art efforts of six young graphic artists at Jager DiPaola Kemp Design in Burlington, whose show, "This Six Here Now," is on display at the company's Exquisite Corpse Artsite. Perhaps times have simply changed, perhaps nowadays there is an unbridgeable schism between style and substance.

The exhibitors — Craig Melchiann, Herb George, Byron O'Neill, Jared Eberhardt, Jim Anfuso and an entity identified only as "Struggle Inc." are to be commended for trying to keep their fine-art chops up to speed while working in cutting-edge graphic design. Not surprisingly the gallery space is cobwebed by the bold, graphic-oriented art, however, only a few of these pieces come close to having significant content.

"Meth" by Craig Melchiann.

"Bookedback," by Struggle Inc., is a mixed-media wall piece that layers graphic elements and poured paint of a 12-paned window. It has a nice range of colors narrowly keyed around olive green. But by resorting to scale elements such as a stuck-on nametag and international transportation symbols the artist's intent remains as vague as the name Struggle Inc. is contrived.

The mixed talents of Byron O'Neill demonstrate that he has an interest to several conceptual approaches but perhaps no real commitment to any particular path as a fine artist. The image in "Red Man" has the hot flat ness of a typical Francis Bacon figure, but it lacks the tension that derived from Bacon's figure/ground relationships. The diminutive scale of the piece seems to have been selected at random and, like practically every other piece in the exhibit using freehand drawing, it lacks confidence.

One piece that could provide 2 direction for further study is O'Neill's "Faith." The small hard-edged pencil drawing on ledger paper diagrams three objects, ostensibly to view three aspects of understanding. At left is a competently rendered desk in two-point perspective; in the center is a cubistic abstraction of the desk and its shadow; and on the right is book floats piously, perhaps representing something about spirituality. That's about as deep as anything in this show gets — but possibly these artists are just out to have a good time unencumbered with any murky spiritual or aesthetic issues.

There are a few more plausible exceptions to the general feeling of "nice house, nobody home" that pervades this exhibit. After all, these are fine-art works by some of the most talented designers in our area, part of an award winning creative team that has redefined the "image" of Burlington in subtle, imaginative ways. But this particular installation proceeds from the poorly executed to totally derivative to downright sophomoric offering the public little more than sophisticated dilettantism. Post-modernist clichés should not become confused with contemporary art. How many flip hairdos, kitchen appliances and unexplained Japanese symbols must we endure? How many more Andy Warhol impersonations? How many more off-the-cuff Polaroids and broken beer bottles swept into sculpture?

To give it a positive twist, perhaps it can be said that "This Six Here Now" courageously erases distinctions between fine art and the mundane — by becoming completely mundane. We can only hope that with its next show, Exquisite Corpse Artsite will return to its previously established exceptionally high standards. ⑦

"This Six Here Now," mixed media group exhibit, Exquisite Corpse Artsite, Burlington. Through February 27

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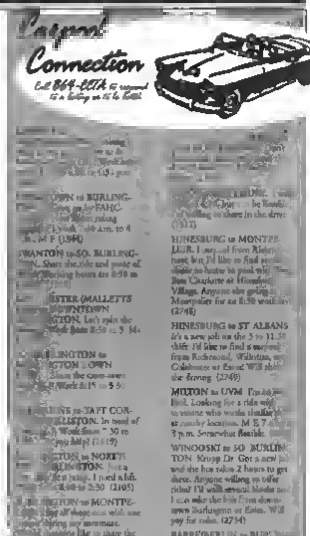

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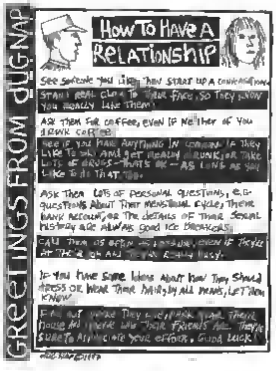

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HEALTH Q&A

By Sarah Van Arsdale

After being on therapy for several years, and a lot on my own for about a year, I find that I still get stuck doing the same thing over and over. I don't really think I need to go back into therapy, but do you have any suggestions for how I could change these bad habits?

There are bad habits, and then there are bad habits. If you're talking about quitting smoking or giving up coffee, those can be disposed of pretty readily. However, I assume you're talking about bigger habits, such as not earning enough money to live on, or celebrating yet another birthday as a single person.

One avenue to try is that the Life Coaching. This sounded hokey to me at first, but the more I talked to a Life Coach — in this case Mark Nash of Charlotte — the more convinced I became that this stuff could positively solve your problems, or at least help you to solve them yourself.

As Nash explains it, Life Coaching helps the client clarify goals and then achieve them. It differs from psychotherapy in that therapy "tends to deal with past issues, delving into the reasons you can't accomplish what you want to," whereas Life Coaching focuses more on the present and the future.

"There also tends to be a feeling in therapy that the client gives power over to the therapist, whereas a coach assumes the client has the answers, the expertise and the willingness to achieve success," he says.

Life Coaching sounds pretty down to earth, as it seeks strategies to move the client forward. The closest therapy that it approximates is probably behavioral therapy, which basically operates on the "fake it until you make it" theory.

Some people who come to Nash for coaching are in some kind of therapy and continue with that even as they turn to him for more practical help in decision-making and goal-setting. Others come to him who are not in therapy and Nash finds himself at times turning down clients, telling them he thinks they need to work on deeper issues with a therapist before working with him.

"Coaching assumes the client is ready and willing to make a change. A client could need to go into therapy to get ready to make a change," he explains. "Sometimes people, when asked about moving forward, just can't."

As devilish as our problems may seem, their very familiarity makes them comfortable to us, and therefore they can be hard to shake. The first step is to get at the underlying reasons for hanging onto unproductive behaviors — work best accomplished before entering into coaching.

Sometimes coaching just comes down to self acceptance and self-esteem, but whatever the reason, the end result is the same: If you're undercharging for services you provide or a job you do, you'll earn less money than if you charge more; if you don't go out in venues where you can meet new people, romance will not come your way. While therapy focuses on the reasons for low self-esteem and on ways of improving it, Life Coaching focuses on getting you to change the patterns that were developed by self-esteem problems.

Ultimately Life Coaching seems to be aptly named because the coach isn't going out onto the court and shooting the baskets for you, and not in the hitting in the locker room with you ruminating about why you didn't make the jump shot. Instead, the coach is listening to you, and then helping you discover the best way to go about getting what you really want.

"The client takes full responsibility for all outcomes," says Nash. "It's about helping the client figure out what's best for them or her and then helping to realize that goal." ⓪

For a brochure and introductory session on Life Coaching, call 482-2488

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wellness directory

REAL astrology

BY ROB BREZSNY

February 5 - February 11

ARIES (Mar 21-Apr. 19) Catholic philosopher John O Donohue champions the concept of *mona cara*, which is a Gaelic phrase meaning *soul friendship*. This is more than an alliance based on common interests or mutual supplication. It's not the kind of connection that arises out of the accident of being together in the same place at the same time day after day. With a soul friend you feel an ancient affinity that stirs your delight in the mystery of life, you're subtly inspired to know and love yourself with more grace than is usually available. I mention this Aries, because I believe you're about to discover a new soul friendship and reap the lovely bounty of an old one.

TAURUS (Apr. 20-May 20). As one of your father figures I feel I have a lot of credibility when I say it's prime time to overthrow your father figures and become your own father figure. Rarely have you been more immune to dour old dad's sickness and orneriness. Never have you been in a better position to outgrow your knee-jerk reactions to make authorities. As much as you might love the older men in your life, you have a cosmic mandate right now to reduce their power to shape and control your life.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Remember how a few weeks ago I predicted that 1998 would be your highest, brightest, greatest year ever? I still mean it. But I realize I forgot to mention that it won't happen all by itself, as if by divine dispensation. You're going to have to work your butts off. Next summer, for instance, you'll be asked to perform exacting miracles that resemble some of the juggling tasks given to the heroines of old fairy tales, like counting the hairs on a pig's back or falling out of bed with a tumble. In the next few weeks especially, your dangerous-will be much grander and more glamorous. Are you ready to spin flax into gold answer the riddle of the sphinx...and induce laughter in the idol who never smiles?

CANCER (June 21-July 22) It will not be an especially good week to mass a caged lion or to sacrifice a live chicken to the god of envy or to put yourself in situations that tend to turn you into a werewolf (or a werewoman, for that matter). This would be a fine time on the other hand, to feed fine manure to your pet and to dream of riding a unicorn through a field of orchids, and to sacrifice one of your beauty cravings so you'll have more kundalini available to invest in one of your angelic desires.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) A silkworm is not a worm, it's a caterpillar. Peanuts aren't nuts but beans. Panama hats are made in Colombia and Ecuador, not Panama. The English horse is another English not a horse but a French woodwind. People hurts under the sign of Leo are not always selfish preening show-offs who need to be the center of attention everywhere they go, but are often generous fonts of good will who listen well to other people and love to help — especially these days.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) I am allergic to cats. Oh Lord am I allergic. Within minutes of being in the same room with the creatures, I'm sneezing and wheezing and hoping like I'm going to die. To my credit I don't hold it against them. I mean it's not as if their virulence is intentional. Nevertheless, I absolutely refuse to go anywhere near them. I hang this up, Virgo, because I'd like you to follow my example as you deal with the influences that bug the hell out of you. How? 1) Candidly identify the people and things that mess with your well being. Don't pretend they're benign. 2) Resolutely avoid the sources of your irritation and show apologies for doing so. 3) Forgive them, love them, don't get obsessed with demonizing them.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) A Libran reader from Boise recently groused: "Why are your horoscopes so damn optimistic? Life is pretty lousy sometimes." Here's my response: I think fate has a tendency to hang on the heels of experiences which we unconsciously believe we need and deserve. If you take as gospel the true dogma that suffering is the best motivation for personal growth, you'll probably attract lots of experiences which seem to prove it. If on the other hand you resolve to relentlessly exalt love and joy and peace and play and revelation, you're more likely to notice the Divine Presence in everything that happens. It should be pretty easy for you to stop the latter attitude these days, Libra. From what I can tell, the rumors is deeply in love with you.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) Once again I find myself duty bound to give you advice which goes against your grain. This time I've got a bunch of mumbo-jumbo that's sure to conflict with your secretive scheming side. Please continue to and carry out the following assignments. 1) Crack open, expose and refine your hitherto-sealed pain. 2) Unlock, unjunk and unfoul your stymied heart. 3) Disclose, lay bare and display your buried treasures. 4) As a ritual to mark the first three tasks, open all the windows and doors of your house, including the closets and cupboards, at 6:53 p.m. PST on Saturday, February 7. Then stand in front of your favorite aperture (preferably unclothed) and announce to the wind and sky, "I am a naked instrument, full of wonder."

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) By the time of his death at age 66 in 1924 Sagittarian Joseph Conrad had become one of the most famous practitioners of English literature, with more than 10 well respected books to his credit. Yet he couldn't speak a word of his native tongue until he was 25 years old, having been born Polish. I hope his example inspires you to take up the challenge that the cosmos is now nudging you towards. Are you balky enough to start mastering a subject or skill you've been virtually ignorant about up until today?

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): A majority of Capricorns who consult astology columns want hard-headed advice about practical matters like money, love, work and health. I hope I don't disappoint you, then when I make the dreamy prediction that you'll soon have a rather mystical experience. If in a way consistent I believe this communion with the unseen world could have unforeseen but highly beneficial consequences for your personal plans pursuits. It may not be so bankable that it'll reveal the lottery-winning numbers, but then again, it might. At the very least it'll point you in the direction of how to build up your stock of love.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) Let's pretend that I am the mirror from the fairy tale "Snow White." And let's say that a highly competent Capricorn or recently agile Libra comes to me one day and chants "Mirror, mirror on the wall/Who's the wisest of them all?" Wouldn't you love to see their faces when I murmur back to them "Smart and savvy you may be/But there's wiser one than thee/Fool on a Hill is what I mean/Otherwise known as Aquarius." It's true, my friend. You're now in possession of the freshest, most quintessential intelligence of the zodiac. You're a bloooming fount of *fresh ideas*.

PISCES (Feb. 19-Mar. 20)- No protectorate system lasts forever. The longbows of the English army, which were so effective in the early Middle Ages, lost their potency as enemies armed themselves with guns and cannons. Antibiotics which have been the ultimate weapon against wounds or maladies are now in danger of capitulating to mutant strains of bacteria that have developed a resistance to the drug. And then there's you and your defense mechanisms, Pisces. After a slow steady decline the psychic arrangements that worked pretty well for you for so long are finally about to peter out for good. Luckily, as prime time, astrologically speaking to start building a new set. Don't hope that version is more beautiful and comfortable than the last, and not as likely to make friends and foes as equally suspicious ⑦

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personal abbreviations

A = Asian, B = Black, BI = Bisexual, C = Christian, CU = Couple, D = Divorced, F = Female, G = Gay, H = Hispanic, J = Jewish, M = Male, Ma = Married, NS = No Drugs, NS = Non-Smoking, NA = No Alcohol, P = Professional, S = Single, W = White, WI = Wi-Sexual, WS = In Search Of, LTR = Long-Term Relationship

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woman seeking man

I HATE IT WHEN YOU TALK ABOUT Fascist and neofascism, than continue with Fascist and neofascism. So keep up the mental maintenance. SWF, 20-something, semi-snob, nice enough age. 1184

SWPF 21, MORE BOTTICELLI THAN BAFF, seeks kindred soul to take walks, read and drink wine with. Be my Valentine. 1196

SPF SEEKS ONE-NIGHT STAND (maybe more). Though what's barely started this attractive active young and brainy 40-something F has emerged from hibernation needing some company for Valentine's Day (or beyond). All offers from intelligent (liberal), reasonably attractive, wildly cheerful and outgoing bachelors answered. 1187

NP YOUNG, SINGLE MOTHER OF ONE seeks 30-39 YO for intelligent conversation and mutual activities, a positive role model, friendship. 1189

UNCONVENTIONAL GAL SEEKS uncommonly cool date. Tell me your plan. SF, 35. 1218

SWF, 5'10", MID 30'S, LIVES IN the present, appreciates the beauty and humor in life. You are well traveled, a champion in different environments (in mind and spiritual. Let's find some adventure! 1190

SWF 40, BROWN HAIR, GREEN EYES, 5'11, attractive seeks man who is left wing, has a good sense of humor, enjoys reading, dancing, is tall and good looking. 1203

HONEST, CURIOUS, ACTIVE, CREATIVE, independent and sexy. Yeah! SWF 30, 50 fun and friendship with NS adventurous lively explorer who is all a honest independent, active, curious and self-aware. 1205

ATTRACTIVE, ATHLETIC. A good man life is fun to find. Are you sweet and sassy, cool and artsy? Let's meet. 1206

ELEGANT SWPF, 50's, 5'8" SHAPELY, classy attractive, looking for more, honest kind, romantic, intelligent gentleman for quality LTR, possibly marriage. NS, no catholics. 1208

EASY TO TALK TO. SWPF 32, ATHLETIC, risk taking, slender and pretty ISO nice man. SWPM, 30-40 to share sun and parks, laughs, gourmet meals, live music & romance. No wimps. 1213

SHALL WE DANCE? ESSENTIAL YOU'RE fit enough to dance, tall enough to dance with me, 25-50, and will dance. Preferable: country-style feels w/ soft heart and big hat. Desirable: you've read a few good books. Me? SWPF 5'8" 135 lbs., almost 40, fit, fun to dance with and really, really like sex. 1221

59, ATTRACTIVE, PETITE, FINANCIALLY secure, pretty. Let's travel, laugh hole bends and share intimate times together. A healthy, kind and gentle man, 55-65, would be wonderful to meet. 1223

TO SHARE FRIENDSHIP Sensitive quiet F 30 5'7" looking for professional sensitive M, 30-37 with sense of humor to share experiences with. Enjoy dining, movies and travel. 1272

WWI, 70SH, 5'8" 130 LBS., SLIM, FIT, enjoys XC-skiing, snowshoeing, chatting, cat music, fine food, dancing, travel. I drive. ISO Prince Charming w/ similar likes for fun & companionship. 1270

SWF, 21. I'M SPONTANEOUS, romantic, then intelligent & fun. SO omit outs, but relaxed SWM, as all to have an high conversation with and create our own new memories to laugh at. 1274

CHALLENGE ME. Athletic woman looking for an athletic man with strong character muscles. Flex your human pose your honesty and wear your sassy nature. I'm fascinated. 46. If you're game, respond. 1278

20 YO COLLEGE STUDENT SEEKS someone of the same age and interests—sports, theater, music, reading, painting and especially long talks into the night. 1281

THE ART OF BROADENING PERSONAL horizons requires strong will a lot of charm, enthusiasm & sense of humor. Knowledge of the cycles of life. Where are you in your journey? 1285

SWF, 23, LOOKING FOR SOMEONE WHO has more personality than my Chia pet. An interest in music is cool too, although I am looking for more absurd paper weights, really. 1287

43 YO MOTHER OF ONE SEEKS 40ish to 50ish man to walk with, talk with and maybe sing and dance with. 1289

CARPENTER WANTED. DWF 51, welcomed. Honest, intelligent, youthful energetic, attractive, professional, values relationships with my adult children. SO a man with similar qualities. Desire to renovate a farmhouse and build a relationship. 1292

HENRI BENDEL TYPE, 38, NJ transplant on K man budget, interested in meeting a SM friend 38-45 to help sort thoughts & bottles while discussing alternatives to the Washington's lunch counter. Intellectual & artistic is lately of the world at key. You, 6ft, and over weight, sensitive, educated & herbalme. 1296

DWPF 40'S, EARTH GOODESS, DANCER, budding mart of artist, excellent cook, creative gardener loves life's pleasures and is easily and willing to share them. Very happy & secure. ISO SM, 30-50 NS/ND for recreational good times. 1133

SWF, 35, 5'8", BLONDE/BLUE EYES, tall-employed, looking for tall NS social drinker 35-40, who likes to relax on weekends, movies, music, etc! Call to get more info. Don't out! 1134

A HOPELESS NEOPHYTE SEEKS DIRT TO share my days, a louse to hide my nights. 1138

VIVACIOUS, SPUNKY AND DEEP SWF, 23, ISO who's universal realist at 25 who doesn't take himself too seriously. If you are optimistic, funny and asking for a change of pace, I'm the one. 1138

DWF, EARLY 60'S, ISO SBWM, NS, for friendship and who knows what else. I know I still have a spark hiding around inside. 1162

DWPF 38, NS/ND, 5'4", ENJOYS travelling, museums, hiking, canoeing, skiing, movies, folk & Celtic music, ISO SM with similar interests in southern Champlain Valley. 1165

SWF, NS, 34, MOTHER TO-BE enjoys C&W music, oldies, animals, reading, outdoors and more ISO NSWM, 35-38, similar interests, Swanton area, employed. SOH. 1166

WILD 'N' CRAZY SWF NS, SEEKING an older incessant man who likes children, quiet evenings at home, country music and likes to spoil a woman with flowers and gifts. 1165

LIONESS TAMER WANTED: Felicitous feline seeks healthy liberal, intellectual, financially secure and computer literate jungle cat, 30-40. This plus-sized belle will purr (growl) with delight at your call. 1166

BOLLERBALLING, DANCING, singing, lovers, go, dining, reading, travelling, loves of life—wide-eyed and cynical by turns, but ultimately optimistic—seeks fit, funny, so-something man of integrity, NS, to share as much of the journey as possible. 1187

X-FILES RERUN BURNOUT? NET I mite? bored am? O I fatigued? Over it? Let's go skiing, see a movie or be coffee and bagels. Me, WWF 39 no children. Your SODM 25-40 no children. Both proportionate, attractive, prefer jeans & sweater hiking boots & not too much make-up. 1169

"HELLO, L.L. BEAN? I'M LOOKING at your college graduate preppy-casual funny, 6'... male section. What? Yes, the one that's fit, 35-40, loves cooking, mysteries, fixing things & will fill the ice cube trays with the thin tall, slim, laughing beauty perfectly. Overnight delivery, please." 1169

SOPHISTICATED & FUN. Very attractive, adventurous, passionate blond, cultured, healthy, fit, educated, well-travelled girl, 34, 5'7" loves nature, outdoor recreation and the arts, seeks nonmassacusetts, mature man, 30-40, with similar qualities, without kids, yet. 1170

FOUR WOMEN WHO TRAVEL TO the Burlington area for hot men dancing are looking for male partners to join us. Have fun and meet nice people. 1171

SICK OF SKIING SINGLE... SWPF 34, seeking someone special: smart, sparky, sensual, social, classy, sensitive, serious, silly. In search of same (s) soulmate. Sound similar? 1172

INTELLIGENT, ATTRACTIVE SWF 22, seeks fun-loving and caring SM 22, for friendship and possibly more. Must like admiring, movies, comedy, and the occasional quiet times. 1173

SWF 26, SEEKS FELLOW NPR junkie for listening to Public Home Companion and playing Scrabble on days of inclement weather. Knee-jerk liberals only, please! 1174

SWF, 26, SLENDER, FRIENDLY attractive. Enjoys conversation, politics, literature, movies, outdoors and sports. Looking for SPM 25-35 NS, ND who has some of the same interests. 1175

CREATIVE SWF, 62, ATTRACTIVE, intellectual, enjoys the arts, travel and gourmet cooking. Seeks SM, 48-65 with similar interests, sincerity and energy, for fun and possible LTR. 1176

RECIPE FOR A RELATIONSHIP: Mix SWM & SWF 35, w/ outdoors, arts, books, travel, music. Sprinkle w/ laughter, understanding, conversation. Cover w/ chocolate. Bake. Serve w/ coffee. Enjoy. 1177

man seeking woman

SHORT STORY 22 YO, MODERATE-RIGHT pipe-smoking beer-loving cooking, plays rally fit, liberal native Vermonter seeks similar, mature SF 22-30, for dinner, music (blues or Celtic) more than friendship. 1185

ECLECTIC, TALL, SLIM, PLAYFUL, attractive, optimist, loving, giving, sensual, athletic, adventurous, young 53 DWM, professional, into jazz, Motown, dancing, laughter, fun seeks loving, playful, attractive, slender, political, sensual soulmate. You? 1183

SWPM, 26, ENJOYS MUSIC (all types) movies (good ones), XC-ski, dog (still learning), cooking (diff at) ISO an intelligent attractive SPF to share the above and just life. 1189

M, 24, LOOKING FOR FUN-LOVING F, 18-23, for friendship and maybe more. Interests: making women happy and helping. Dragons about that. 1186

NICE GUY, DWM, 43, NS/NWM, GOOD-looking. I like gardening, country music, dancing and movies. ISO an independent, pretty gal who wants a little TLC and lots of love. 1201

CRAZY ABOUT INTRIGUE? NUTS ABOUT fun? Let's get together and try them out as one. DWM from NY 39, 5'9", 170 lbs., brown curly and cute to boot. 1208

POSITION OPEN. SINGLE PROPRIETER in business 34 years is seeking partner. Qualifications should include outdoors, entertainment and intellectual skills. Ability to work independently willingness to travel and will request to consider U.B desired. Shenti possess very attractive resume reflecting fitness, humor, sensibility, honesty, culture, nature and music. 1218

...BUT THEN THIS BABE COMES UP behind me see and says, "You and me could really solid." "Wow, I says." Jewish Gal just coming for spiritual, physical honey. New Day. Call! 1204

SWM SEEKS ATTRACTIVE SWF TO remate with in the mountains or on water. Like to garden, canoe, ice skate, hike camp. Come show me how to live a full life in the mountains. 1209

SIM, WRITER/REVIEWER, MEDIA MAVEN, world traveler seeks attractive JF 30's-40's who can discuss topics like "good sunglasses." Big Band era, the Mona Rites, Haggerdah. 1192

VALENTINES FOREVER. Seeking funny, well NSWP w/ easy smile, slim, attractive 20's-30's, for fun, relaxation romance, possible LTR. BE mine. 1193

DWM, 44, SINGLE PARENT OF TWO boys (ages 17 & 19) brown eyes, auburn hair, 197 lbs., 6'2". I enjoy fishing, hunting, music, movies, dancing, dining out, quiet nights canoeing & wa-gal fishing. 1201

I'M NOT A TYPICAL MALE. I'm very free prance and I feel I love may come late. Call me. 1194

DOMINANT M, 50, SEEKING YOUNGER woman mad um-build open minded and who would like to be treated like a princess in travel. Enjoy sailing outdoors. 1210

MIDDLE-AGED HEALTH PROFESSIONAL, not bad-looking, searching for easy going, honest, caring, active, pretty women to share friendship and nice things. Age, race, no importance. 1220

PROFESSIONAL, 57, BUT LOOKS MUCH younger, sincere, considerate, affectionate, romantic, likes jogging, walking, music, travel, seeking. Seeking slim, healthy woman, NS, no dependent children, 47-57, for very loving LTR. 1273

SWM SEEKING SWF, 18-21, WHO LIKES to listen to punk, ska, emo and hard core. Can a mosh? Has to be free on weekends. Looking for relationship or friendship. In Burlington. 1284

RESPOND TO THIS AD IF YOU'RE attractive, fit, 28-38, NS/ND and enjoy wine activities like XC-skiing & snowshoeing. I'm an attractive SWPM, 35. Let's enjoy the great outdoors! 1286

COWGIRL/FARMGIRL WANTED. DWM, young 40's 5'11" 165 lbs. NS/ND handsome, fit, energetic, healthy, hard working Iowa country, animals, outdoors, outdoors. ISO attractive, fit, smart, energetic country girl. 1118

DOMINANT SWPM, 32, TRIM, ATTRACTIVE, seeks submissive F. Variety of interests from mutual activities to dining out/quiet nights at home. Friendly, discreet, possible LTR. What are you waiting for? 1121

ZEN DREAMS. SWM, 6'1", 185 lbs., 38, good eyes, heart, mind, legs & vocabulary: erudite, unpretentious real ISO F 30's-40's for cerebral stimulation, physical celibacy, or mindbled sensuality healing relaxation. Let's make it happen. 1123

GIRLS, YOU'RE IN LUX. Defining this so called physics term as to brighten your day—cheers. Let me light the way. My name is Fiddler. 1124

TOM ROBBINS, KOKO TAYLOR, JOHN WAYNE, Bobbie Ann Mason, Stevie Ray Vaughan, Lee Blank, Patti Smith, Ellen Redner, Henry Cabot Henhouse III & Crumb, Professor Long Hair Weird & Beast. Interested? 1071

DWM, 42, SMOKER, NAND SEEKING an Independent SWF who knows what the Heavy Metal lifestyle is about. I'm a Taurus Moon Virgo. You're ? not an alright? 1072

LIKE OLDER MENT SWM, 40, BUT DON'T feel it. Seeking SWF 18-25 for alpine or nordic skiing travel movies dining. Call for more. 1082

SENSUAL GARDENER, 25, ISO FERTILE fields. Let me turn your velvet earth. Let me tow your fields of love. I've got the special tools if your secret garden needs tilling. 1084

FAMILY IMPORTANT, FATHER OF ONE, dependable responsible confident, good natured attractive romantic, passionate spontaneous, I believe in my ethic, adventure, mind, naughty but nice imaginative adventurous minded DK. Call me. 1091

DINNER, WINE, MASSAGE. I have everything but you. DWM, 45 5'10" 170 lbs. ISO younger lady to spoil. Fun times of TTF. Call for details. Smoker preferred. 1092

HI. I AM A SPM, 38, GOAL-ORIENTED, compassionate, enjoy family activities, outdoors, dining, traveling. Would like to meet a SF to share dreams & adventures and who is compassionate for interesting discussions and more. 1094

PHYSICAL & FEMINIST DWM, 49, run not hike! Naturalist, centered, passionate, optimistic professional who values balance between daily physical pursuits and love of film, hemp, plant food and travel seeks LTR. 1097

LAID BACK SWM, 38, 5'8", NS, depend able, sincere, monogamous, shy, needs attractive lady, music, camping, antiques, nickelodeon X-C, HD's more. I'll form simple sentences with those words. If you like. 1099

NICE GUYS FINISH LAST! I DON'T THINK so. Hello me and here. DWM, 42 ISO attractive, nice females to date. Like being just and/or anything inside and out. 1100

LONG & LEAN, HANDSOME WITH GREEN eyes great head, heart, humor and hugs. Offers honesty, warmth, intellect, laughter and smiles to a fun filled, attractive, sincere, sweet nature, but about loving woman, 28-40. Kids optional. 1103

person to PERSON

men seeking women

SWM, NS, ND 50'S, IN DECENT SHAPE, professional, educated, articulate, passionate, sensual. Loves classical music, intelligent conversation, outdoor sports. Seeking non-religious woman of qualities like mine for companionship and whatever happens. 1106

OF TENDER HEART! Gentle, endearing, attractive, fit SWM seeks SWF NS 34-40, of the same ilk. 1108

FEMALE FRIEND NEEDED. I'm 48, dark hair, blue eyes, 175 lbs., 6', in good shape. Enjoy fishing, walks, good soft music—Percy Faith, etc.—lot's of lovin'. Not rich, but a lot of fun. 1110

LOVE IS A GOOD THING. SWM, 44, attractive, loyal, sensitive, seeking slender princess who desires possible long-term commitment. Call soon. 1131

PWM, 40'S, FATHER OF ONE (daughter) swim, bike, run—having fun yet?—Blonde/hazel, seeking active, attractive F. Friends first. Burlington/Add. Co. area OK. Mind set important, age/race not. Let's be! 1119

SEEK INDOMITABLE SPIRIT, VULNERABLE heart, mindful clarity and enlivening countenance. Your remarkable nature unmistakably responds to my yearning. Connect creative passion, peacefulness, pampering. We are not everyday people. 35+. 1114

SWM, 42, ND, BLONDE/BLUE, 6', 200 lbs., loves all nature, hiking, animals, kids, boating, camping, fishing, movies, laughter, etc., seeks friend and lover for life mate. I need my Babydoll 1116

SWPM, 43, 5'8", EDUCATED, FIT AND youthful. Reserved, but fun. Values integrity. Seeks attractive, open-minded, compatible match. Sense of humor, medium build, 40ish, under 5'6". Smokers OK. 1109

STELLAR LEGERDEMAIN. SM snowflake, 41, seeks SF snowflake to rise through the mellow shadows. Together we will glitter like a swarm of fireflies tangled in a silver braid. 1100

SWM, 27, 6'2", VERY ATHLETIC, PREPPY, educated, good dancer, hoping to meet pretty SF who enjoys skiing, the great outdoors, dancing, nights on the town. 1120

SWCP, 37, 6', 170 LBS., EASY-GOING, responsible, dependable, a good listener, likes movies, music, cooking and more. Looking for someone special. I hope you're out there. 1123

LOOKING FOR TWO ATTRACTIVE women interested in double-dating. Ages 18-22. Friendship first if possible. 1125

BECK-N-CALL. Sexy, good looking, extremely healthy, classy, focused and committed. Enjoy workouts, running, biking, tennis, stock market, plays, classical music, concerts, nature, exotic cars and coffee. Need equivalent F life partner, 35-45ish. 1126

SWM, 31, SEEKS F 26-31, FOR snowboard parties to Central VT ski areas & mountain bike trails in summer. Must be healthy & snowboard proficient. Want to hang first, maybe more to follow. Selah. 1127

DON'T WANT MUCH, JUST SOMEONE TO love who will love me back with her heart. Me: 40, ND, 5'7", 145 lbs., no children. Central VT. 1128

ARE YOU OUT THERE? Slim, petite SF with beauty and strength, who prefers living close to trees, paddling still waters, adventure, travel, good meals, home life. 1129

THE POWER OF MAGIC. WPM, honest, sensitive, caring w/ fun loving attitude seeks pal in WPF 29-37, witty, sporty, active, attractive and likes fun sports. Must love animals, similar qualities. NS/ND/NA. Poss. f. a LTR. 1131

DAD, 40'S, PART NEO-LUDDITE, PART L.L. Bean punk, part Martha Stewart, passionately creative, goofy, seeks woman who's a tomboy by day, a Hepburn by night for alchemy, honesty and Capraesque hijinks. 1130

CARPENTER/WRITER, 39, FIT, ATHLETIC, attractive, outgoing. Swimmer, skier, golfer, chastened radical, starry-eyed realist, humanist, revolutionary, errant cog in the machinery of mass malfeasance, moral philosopher, town gossip, admirer of Jesus, Buddah and other kind people. Seeking F for fun, laughs, possible lifetime argument. 1138

RABBI'S DAUGHTER WANTED BY songwriter/drummer Sagittarian in his 30's to share good music and? Life is a swimming pool. What section are you in? 1135

personal of the week

seeking women

position open.

Single proprietor in business 34 years is seeking partner. Qualifications should include outdoor, entertainment and intellectual skills. Ability to work independently, willingness to travel and willingness to consider LTR desired. Should possess very attractive resume reflecting fitness, humor, ambition, honesty, culture, nature and music.

1218

SWM, NS, 40'S, SERIOUS WITH SENSE of humor, well educated & traveled, tall, with a soul. Canadian resident. Likes music, art and the beauty of our world. Sharing & comprehensive. 1140

MUSH! ALASKA BOUND NS MTN. MAN, poet/writer, 38, nature enthusiast, fisherman, hunter, romantic, kindhearted dog lover ISO NS/ND, outdoor-minded, darn good looking nature girl w/ no attitude, and the good life! 1141

HOT, SEXY, CURVACEOUS & SOFT... SWF NS 30-35, wanted to explore sexual depths and sensual erotic pleasure, who enjoys sexy lingerie and other fun, light, flirty things. I'm a SWM 36, 6'0", well built & strikingly handsome. I am looking for a woman who enjoys a safe, healthy & adventurous lifestyle. 1143

DWM, NS/ND, DOWN TO EARTH, enjoys fishing, nature, canoeing, gardening, horses, cooking, going to movies, simple lifestyle. Seeks same in F Central VT. 1067

HEY THERE! BULLWINKLE J. MOOSE, 36, tall, dark and moosely. Tired of hibernating alone! Likes all the usual and unusual Vermont stuff. ISO a moosette born in the years 1957, 1960, 1963, 1965, 1969 or 1970. Only those years need apply. 1069

YOU COMPLETE US. Romantic attractive M, 40s, ISO NS F to share nature, sunsets, cooking, cuddling, quiet evenings, camping, massages. 1144

HUMOR AND KINDNESS. Grad student, late 20s, active and attractive, at peace. Looking to meet a positive, fit WF 25-35 who enjoys life. 1145

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION: Meet and befriend a woman. Emotional, spiritual, physical attraction helps. Me: 6', 180 lbs., 40, brown hair, green eyes. You? 1146

DO YOU REMEMBER WHEN YOU could feel that great chemistry with someone? That's what this SWPM—secure, fit, good-looking—wants in a similar SWF 25-36. 1147

KING OF HEARTS LOOKING FOR Queen of Hearts 35-45. If you're loyal, romantic, honest, understanding & passionate, like the outdoors, camping, romantic dinners and more. ISO LTR. 1148

HIKING, BIKING, SNOWSHOEING, fun, smiling, movies and having fun. SWPM 43, looking for a SWPF to share some good times and fun. Must enjoy outdoor winter activities. 1149

SWM, 25, 6', 185 LBS., ATHLETIC, romantic, ISO SWF 21-28 NS who likes dressing up and dressing down. A great laugh is a must. 1150

DWM, ATTRACTIVE, YOUNG 40, great shape, sane, ND, easy going, hardworking, ISO interesting, fun F for friendship and possible LTR. Let's smile and enjoy 1998. 1151

I'M NO BRAD PITT AND DON'T care to be! SWM, 29, love the country, but miss the city, sigh, though not much, hate the gym, but go anyway. I'm interesting, athletic, yet cultured, motivated by passion & spontaneity. Are you? 1157

FAIR MAIDEN, 30-40, WITH intelligence, looks, character sought by highly educated, handsome, humorous, athletic SWM, 6', 175 lbs. for dating and possible LTR. Kids OK. 1153

ECLECTIC SWM, 40, Part time dad, 6', 180 lbs., healthy, likes to ski, hike, sail. Teacher, entrepreneur, gardener, handyman, enjoys full moons, laughter, romance. Stable, supportive. No chef but willing to wash dishes. ISO a special blend of these qualities and an appetite for passion. Carpe Diem. 1154

EASY-GOING, HUMOROUS, attractive, single, monogamous man, early 30's, seeking attractive SF 25-40, for dining, bowling, friendship, movies, romantic nights, fulfilling conversation. Like to give massages? 1155

women seeking women

GWF, 31, ISO GWF, 25-30, FEMININE, good humored, sane, figure. Discreet LTR. Hey, why not? If you like movies, books, music & traveling, call. 1176

LOOKING FOR A WOMAN WHO WILL pleasure me the way she would like to be. Big breasts, big butt and big spender. Please call if you like to be spanked. 1137

GBF, 63, WANTS A FRIEND, LOVER, partner—NS/ND, loves walking, sports, positive outlook, very affectionate, WNEA/ARI fun. Want same. 1113

BiF, 22, BLONDE, ATTRACTIVE, artistic, non-conformist, seeks same for conversation, companionship and ??? Must have a sense of adventure. I like NIN, dancing, witches, bondage, yoga, books, tattoos. 1123

SBiF, FEMININE, DESIRES TO FIND woman. I'm 5'2", dark hair, blue eyes, attractive & sexy. Want an erotic woman who won't mind getting a little wet. Discretion/disease-free a must. 1117

19 YO, 5'6", 120 LBS, ATTRACTIVE SWF with green eyes, black hair. Interests: fashion and dancing. Looking for attractive F to experience life and have fun along the way. 1107

BiCURIOUSF, 31, BLONDE/BLUE, attractive, thin, professional, seeks woman 23-40 for casual friendship & fun. Discretion appreciated/given. 1158

Over 35 new ads this week

Call now!
1-900-370-7127
$1.99 a minute
Must be 18 or older

Ask Lola the Love Counselor

Dear Lola,

I just picked up my copy of Seven Days, and the sex survey had been cut out! When I asked my husband if he'd filled it out, he just looked sheepish. It floored me to find out, after 13 years of marriage, that my spouse is a closet exhibitionist. What would make someone want to answer such smut?

— Betrayed in Burlington

Dear Betrayed,

Get a grip, girl. Unless he gave us more than we asked for, your hubby sent in his answers anonymously, ensuring his privacy and yours. And as for this so-called exhibitionism you seem to find so disturbing: Plenty of people get pleasure by revealing sexual secrets; particularly when they can do so while keeping their identity unknown. Take it from someone who does it every week.

—Love,

Lola

Reach out to Lola
c/o SEVEN DAYS, P.O. Box 1164,
255 S. Champlain Street,
Burlington, VT
05402

person to PERSON

to respond to a personal ad call 1-900-370-7127
We're open 24 hours a day! $1.99 a minute. must be 18 or older.

men seeking men

"HANDY" TELEPHONE MAN. CALL ME. lets talk about the first thing that comes up! Maybe meet. 1197

SWM, 35, 6', 190 LBS. FIT, SEEKS select man fit extremely discreet, safe sex. I will try anything, but am most interested in being a bottom. You pick the place. 1207

PASSIONATE BWM, 42, 5'10", 165 lbs., clean discreet with red hair seeks other man for fun in the Rutland and Burlington areas 1215

MASCULINE, NATURAL, ATHLETIC, intelligent happy nature-lover Between 25 & 35. That's you. And I'm looking for a real connection. I am a DK bundle, a sweety wrestler, a dinner friend. 1236

PACIFIST VEGGIE, DECAF, NON-DRINKER, occasional pipe smoker, 27, 6', 195 lbs., long brown hair & blue/blue eyes, seeks non-smoker, thinker, talker, joker wishes to commune with kindred old soul 18-39, in the Burlington area. 1217

CONVERSATION & KINK! Submissive, 40-something, 6', 195 lbs., bearded, balding GWM seeks creative men for intellectual stimulation and physical domination. Intense, intelligent megahistophelian males desired for expansion of mind and limits. 1275

GWM, 39, 6', 170 LBS., CARING, underfamiliar and living looking for someone 35-45 for friendship or possible relationship. 1286

GBM, 37, 190 LBS., NS/ND, OPEN-MINDED hard-working, joyful ISO GM, 18-37 NS/ND for friendship, possible relationship. Physically disabled OK. Hit+ OK too. No games please. 1288

PLAIN & SIMPLE. GWPM, 39, 6'9", 200 lbs. masculine, passive psychology student, good looking workout, out-doorsman, adventurous nature, humanous. Seeking masculine aggressive males over 30 for fun maybe more. 1296

PART TIME GROWN-UP, ACTIVE outrider, athletic & handsome (in outband back light ed) 40's, 5'10 lbs. 6'2" Desire youthful pal 18-bantling, with bike, backpack and swim trunks. NS/ND 1305

READY AND WILLING BWM, 30'S, 5'9", good looking Bottom seeking mates that are butch masculine and top. Lets many areas of fun. Would you like to know what kind of fun? 1309

BWM, 38, IN SHAPE, 5'7" MUSCULAR, 160 lbs., NS top & bottom bi-bisa. I am a goal-oriented, hard-working, open-minded, mature man ISO same type of qualities for LTR. 1315

HANDSOME MAN, EARLY 30'S, SEEKS fun loving, fit man 25-35 for friendship, possibly more. I'm 5'9", 160 lbs., like snowmobiling, skating, motorcycles, fast cars and having fun w/ friends. 1138

GREEN MOUNTAIN HOME GROWN early 20's pierced, witty and good-looking big pie. Dreaming of a sweet, sexy Boy to share dark beer and smoky kisses under a wild wild moon. 1148

BURLINGTON AREA GWM. I AM 35 5'11" 180 lbs. clean-shaven, regular build. NS seeking similar guy to share my life with. Enjoy movies, theater, cooking, travel, music, dancing, cuddling and good, uninhibited fun. Let's get together. 1066

CHARISMATIC, SENSITIVE AND muscular Bi YO Russian actor, dancer, computer pianist, teacher with warmth and sense of humor (5 10" 155 lbs.) seeks sensitive, feminine male counterpart, 25-40, for friendship & possible LTR. 1068

24 YO, 6' 195 LBS., NOT A PERFECT body, but a very nice guy now in Burlington seeking decent guy. Interests include travel, cooking and watching TV 1161

DO YOU ENJOY MASOCHISM? Looking for F willing and able. Body piercing and fetishes are a must! Sexually deviant M, 18 1219

SWM, 32, SEEKS SWF, 18-25, FOR friendship, watching adult videos together and modeling lingerie. Send letter and picture, please. 1212

WANT TO BE A DOMINATRIX (OR ARE you one)? Have a man (or men) at your feet obeying your will. No experience necessary, will train by generous male. Be free! 1181

women seeking men

ANOTHER TOY FOR MY BOY SWF head mg for SBF to play with my boy and me. Seeking a fit attractive, disease-free 18-48 YO who doesn't mind sharing toys. Discretion, please. 1288

DUNGEONS & DRAGONS. Out-of-practice gamer looking for other mature women interested in playing fun D&D where our voices aren't drowned out and our gaming rules count. Friendship only, please. Let's game and eat junk food! Non-stereotypical gaming guys welcome too. 1098

JUDITH I SAT NEXT TO YOU AT B.B. KING. Side love and lust you! Run away to England with me! Jim 1334

MENTAL HEALTH CLASS, 1/29. You had big cheeks beauty, came in late. Miss following up the girl with dark hair, but really for a change. Save me from heterosexual hell. Please call. 1302

Call now!
1-900-370-7127 $1.99 a minute. Must be 18 or older.

letters only

To respond to Letters Only mbx: Send your response in an envelope with box # on the outside and place in another envelope with $5 for each response and address to: PERSON TO PERSON c/o SEVEN DAYS, P.O. Box 1164, Burlington VT 05402

women seeking men

FEMALE, 40'S, TENDER HEARTED, intelligent, darkly humorous ISO male friend(s) for music, movies, conversation, being adore being outdoors and reading, laughing-enjoying-out-loud Children & animals welcome. Box 249

ANYONE FOR HIKING IN IRELAND? Swimming with dolphins? Mayhem teaching the Tango? Reading in and all day? Open to possibilities. I'm 46 and not afraid of children at heights. Box 244

COULD BE WONDERFUL! Big beautiful, warm woman 38 seeking 100% man for LTR. We are intelligent fun kind & sincere, and know the value of honesty & loyalty. Like I came outdoor activities art & music. Circ. VT/Burlington area. Write first reply later! Box 245

WITTY, RADIANT INF. 40, wise when not depressed. ISO educated, active (philosophic) type w/ fast ride/slow hands who knows life's simplicity than books. If you can tango even better. Box 237

WPF, 46, NS, 5'8", CURLY BROWN hair, native New Yorker, physician, mother. I enjoy skiing, dancing, dining out, theater talk mg. I'm. ISO WPM, 44-54 who wants good company and to try some or all of the above with me on both sides of the lake. Box 285

DR. LAURA WOULD APPROVE! BCSWI 33 ISO BCSWM 30 w/ friends first. I like outdoors, quiet times and fun local life. LTR eventually. Pictures, please. Box 288

SWF ISO SM, 20-30, sense of humor, sense of caution & conversation, willingness to break the ice spend time being playful or simply listening. Box 284

UWPF, 39, NS, SENSITIVE AND genuine. Very attractive. Loves working out, the outdoors, dancing, movies, quiet romantic evenings. ISO handsome, fit D/SWPM, 34-41. Photo appreciated. Box 286

YOUR LICK. SEXY? NIBBLE. 20'S? Laugh. Animal lick? Teach. Hot salsa? Caress. Nutty? Lap. Available? Gyrate. Experienced? Exhale. Adventurous? Perma gum. Me? Cute, married, willing. Picture please. Box 241

MISTRESS FOR YOU? Are you a passionate, p.d. financially a be gentleman, 50+, who'd enjoy weekly, discreet, rendezvous? Extremely attractive, sensual, articulate SWF 35, available. Box 222

women seeking women

SOCIAL EVOLUTIONIST, ACTIVIST, artist—human sensuality, appreciation of weather—seeks philosophical letter lover possible LTR. West Champlain Basin region preferred. Beauty, brains, late thirties, perfect. Box 247

SEVENTEEN POSITIONS, RHYTHM/LEAD vocalist wanted. Ability to improv and gig high necessary. Gardener, farmer, crafter (loom, but hearth, lake, river, mountain. If you believe, your way is good. Jam. Box 248

RELOCATING TO VERMONT ENJOY hiking, working, samosbooing, dinner, shopping and more. SWM, 41 5'11", 165 lbs. Box 250

DWPOM, 49, HANDSOME, DEAF & bright ISO O who I can pretty secure and fun to be with. I enjoy downhill skiing, hiking, theater, self music and dining out. Box 240

MED-LUNATIC, SWM, 52 (MONTPELIER/ Northeast Kingdom) seeks med-lunatic I with hand-cranked grain grinder and stinky black dress. Box 251

GROWING UP: THERE WERE TWO children in your family — you and your younger brother. You're organized and know a lot about nutrition & body, spirit, ambitions. I'm in my 40's. Need your wave. Box 242

LET'S SEE... THE PLANTS ARE WATERED all the lights are off. Doors... forgot to get manicured ISO funky lesbian who is similarly absent-minded. Box 243

SENSITIVE NICE GUY DWPM, 47, attractive fit, educated NS ISO lovely woman 38-50 for LTR. Interests: travel, dreams responsible dancing, walks, sports and more. Box 234

MOM, DIVORCED, OVER 30, tired of all dog hemp? Part time (LTR) Business owner with 2 children seeks gal for fun times—mental as well as physical. Kids are first, but when they are not looking, we can get out. Box 235

DISTINGUISHED SUBMISSIVE gentleman 38 fit, successful, well to do ISO complimentary fit w/ classy, sensual, commanding woman who enjoys being in charge, waited on and pampered by exceptional responsibility man who enjoys your domestic & personal choices & truly planning & supporting you. Box 232

FROM MONTPELIER (Lake Champlain for half the year) NS/ND DWPM good-looking athletic multi dimensional, independent, secure, honest, kind, generous, adventurous humanoid, fun. You good-looking, stylish a mate. Box 239

M, 39, 165 LBS., 6', DISENCHANTED with decent, respectable celibate lifestyle, seeking mischievous F party animal for occasional discreet after hours fun and friendship. Box 238

SWM, 35, NECROPHILIAC WITH Oedipus complex seeks I 18-45 for simulated post mortem outrages, hedonic liberties, etc. DeSade seeks Ms. Von Sacher-Masoch. Box 287

women seeking men

GWM, 5'10" 185 LBS. HONEST open minded, loves the outdoors, hiking, hiking, skiing and nature. ISO GM, 30-40 for friendship and good times. Box 231

READY FOR IT GM, 40, ISO MAN with integrity 35-50 for LTR. Interests: culture, cuisine, nature, spirituality. Your respect gets mine. Box 209

men seeking men

ISO HANDSOME, CLEAN-CUT M, 20-35, to show me how to give my wife a sensual massage. She's 35, pretty, built like a well muscled Victoria's Secret model. Professional massage training, discretion a must. Box 246

4 digit box numbers can be contacted either through voice mail or by letter. 3 digit box numbers can only be contacted by letter. Send letter along w/ $5 to PO Box 1164, Burlington, VT 05402

LOVE IN CYBERSPACE POINT YOUR WEB BROWSER TO HTTP://WWW.WIZN.COM/7DAYS.HTM TO SUBMIT YOUR MESSAGE ON-LINE

Person to Person

YOUR AD

How to place your FREE personal ad with Person to Person

FILL OUT THE COUPON AND MAIL IT TO: PERSONALS, P.O. BOX 1164 BURLINGTON VT WRITE ON BOX TO BOLDED LINE. PLEASE CHECK APPROPRIATE CATEGORY

•FIRST 30 WORDS ARE FREE WITH PERSON TO PERSON (40 WORDS IF PAID ON THURSDAY). ADDITIONAL WORDS ARE 50¢ EACH & 4 WEEKS.

•FREE RETRIEVAL 24 HOURS A DAY THROUGH THE PRIVATE BOX # (DETAILS WILL BE MAILED TO YOU WHEN YOU PLACE YOUR AD) IT'S SAFE CONFIDENTIAL AND FUN!

How to respond to a personal ad

CHOOSE 3 OR 4 FAVORITE BOX #S WITH THEIR 3 OR NUMBERS.
CALL 1-900-370-7127 FROM A TOUCH TONE PHONE.
FOLLOW THE PROMPTS YOU WILL BE ASKED TO ENTER THE BOX # YOU WISH TO RESPOND TO, THE MESSAGE NUMBER, & SPECIFIC CATEGORY
CALLER COST $1.99 PER 1 MIN. YOU MUST BE OVER 18 YEARS OLD.

ADD WITH A 3-DIGIT BOX # CAN BE CONTACTED THROUGH THE MAIL. EVAL YOUR RESPONSE IN AN ENVELOPE, WRITE THE BOX # ON THE OUTSIDE AND PLACE IT ANOTHER ENVELOPE WITH $5 FOR EACH RESPONSE. ADDRESS TO:
BOX # ___, P.O. BOX 1164 BURLINGTON, VT 05402.

Confidential Information
WE NEED THIS TO RUN YOUR AD!

Name ___
Address ___
City ___ STATE ___
Z.P. ___ PHONE ___

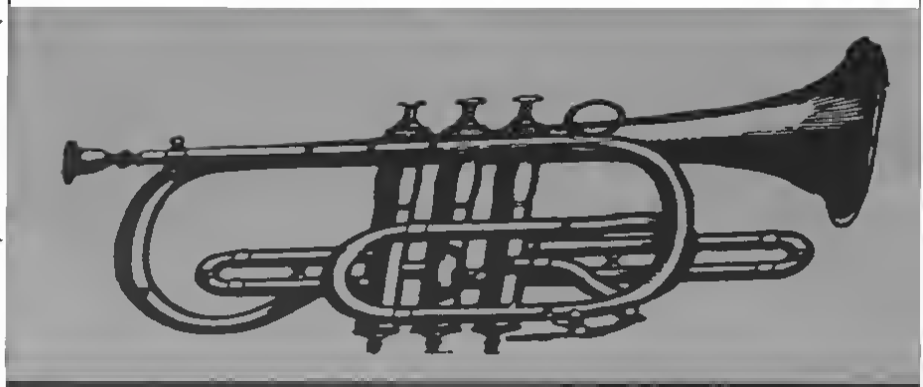
IF AD EXCEEDS 30 WORDS, SEND $.50 PER EXTRA WORD X # WEEKS

1-900-370-7127
$1.99 a minute
Must be 18 or older

CIRCLE ONE

Four FREE weeks for:
WOMEN SEEKING MEN
MEN SEEKING MEN
WOMEN SEEKING WOMEN
MEN SEEKING MEN

Two FREE weeks for:
1 BOY
OTHER



excuse us while we blow our own horn

We're pleased to announce that Pamela Polston of *Seven Days* took first place in the New England Press Association's "better newspaper contest" for a story about the aftermath of a sexual assault. "What Happens After Rape" beat out the *Boston Phoenix* and other alternative weeklies throughout New England in the "human interest feature story" category.

Also, *Seven Days* photographer Matthew Thorsen took an honorable mention for his photograph of Jon "Zach" Zachadnek, a.k.a. the proprietor of "Zach on the Rocks" inn and restaurant in Montgomery.

Yay, team.

And congrats to our colleagues at other award-winning Vermont papers:

The Addison County Independent
County Courier
The Essex Reporter
The Stowe Reporter
Bradford Journal Opinion
Brattleboro Town Crier
Manchester Journal
St. Albans Daily Messenger